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Jordan agrees to host multilateral regional talks

DAVID MAKOVSKY
and news agencies

JORDAN hopes next week's negotiations will launch accelerated discussions to resolve existing bilateral problems, likely to be capped by a Hussein-Rabin summit, according to Foreign Ministry officials.

The officials spoke after being briefed on yesterday's meeting in Tunis between Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin and chief Jordanian negotiator and Ambassador to US Farouk Tarawneh.

Jordan also agreed yesterday for the first time to host multilateral talks on regional cooperation next spring, Foreign Ministry officials said. Yesterday in Tabarka, Tunisia, the sixth round of multilateral talks began.

"Tarawneh said that he wants to demonstrate immediate results to both nations, saying he does not want the talks to be empty. He hoped that the success of these talks will enable a meeting between the two leaders," diplomats in Jerusalem said yesterday.

"If these negotiations are very intensive," Beilin said in Tunis, "I think in a matter of months they can resolve the difference between Jordan and Israel and I hope they will sign a peace agreement."

One-day talks next week are supposed to launch substantive discussions on border demarcation, water, and other difficult bilateral issues.

Indications of the possible tone of those discussions came yesterday when Marwan Mouasher, a spokesman for the Jordanian delegation to the talks, said Israel must recognize Jordan's border and water rights before the kingdom will discuss economic cooperation issues in the talks.

Tarawneh's remarks come just after King Hussein told his parliament over the weekend he would be willing to meet with Rabin. The monarch said that such a meeting was an American precondition for hundreds of millions of dollars worth of debt relief.

The king's statement is being viewed here as just one example of the monarch's preparing his own people for peace with Israel, with this to be driven home during two sets of talks next week.

Israel and Jordan will officially hold peace talks next Monday at an Arava border location, instead of discussions being held only in Washington. Foreign Ministry officials say they have been informally told that Jordan Television has scheduled a live broadcast of the opening session of next week's one-day session.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on Monday that he, Secretary of State Warren Christopher, and Jordan's Prime and Foreign Minister Abdel Salam Majali will all meet for a trilateral meeting next Wednesday, marking the first time that an Israeli has been publicly invited to Jordan. So far there has been no confirmation from Jordan.

Officials say they will know today if Israeli journalists will be invited to attend the meeting, which officials say will be held at a Jordanian hotel alongside the Dead Sea.



PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat embraces a Gaza official upon his arrival at PLO headquarters in Gaza City yesterday. (AP)

Arafat takes up residence in Gaza

News agencies

PALESTINIAN leader Yasser Arafat and his wife Suba moved permanently to the Gaza Strip yesterday, but received a low-key reception.

Arafat spent most of the day closeted with senior aides and officials, making no public statements after whisking across the border from Egypt around 10 a.m. in a five-car motorcade.

But his wife Suba, 30, told reporters they are both extremely happy. She said Arafat had looked out at the Mediterranean and told her that for the first time in his 27 years of wandering, he felt he was seeing his own coastline.

"He told me that he no longer feels like an exile," said Mrs. Arafat, dressed in an elegant beige suit and surrounded by a security detail that included some Palestinian women police.

In an impromptu press conference on the steps of a modest villa the Arafats will likely inhabit, Mrs. Arafat said she would concentrate on women's and humanitarian issues in Gaza.

She also said her husband wants

to fulfill people's expectations but not make empty political promises.

"He cannot do miracles in one or two days," she said.

Meanwhile, PLO and Israeli negotiators met for 4½ hours and agreed to sit together next Monday to start working out details of expanding Palestinian control in the territories.

Yesterday's talks were to have lasted two hours, but last minute problems, including the fate of 800 Palestinians in Israeli jails, appeared to have lengthened them.

Under an accord signed May 4 in Cairo, Israel agreed to release 5,000 Palestinian detainees on condition they renounce in writing further attacks on Israel. But chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath said 800 remain imprisoned.

Shaath said his team doubts Israel's allegation that they refused to sign.

"So that there is no confusion, we asked the Israelis for the names to know if there are really

palace like other Arab rulers.

"Arafat is a very simple man, and he's looking for a simple house," said Kanafani.

"The presidential palace will reflect the character of the Palestinian people and the hardship the Palestinian masses have faced," he said.

The small knots of people watching Arafat arrive yesterday, even less than during his visit last week, and the almost total lack of graffiti were strong evidence that the street was not enchanted with his return.

Majed Abu Salem, 22, a restaurant owner at the Beach Refugee Camp only a few hundred meters from the Palestine Hotel where Arafat was staying, said: "This is the best thing for us, to have our president with us, but the streets are unpaved, and there is a housing crisis," he said.

More than 1,000 officials were expected to move to Gaza from Tunis. Among those expected Friday were senior aides Yasser Abed Rabbo and Samir Ghoshe.

Spokesman Marwan Kanafani said Arafat specified that he did not want to live in a luxurious

ian activist Faisal Hussein privately agreed with him.

Publicly, Hussein denied this yesterday.

However, Dingwall was only doing what virtually every major foreign dignitary from the level of foreign minister downward has done since Orient House was opened under Likud rule in 1991.

When asked to comment about the visit, Canadian Ambassador Norman Specter said "there is nothing new in our policy. We have been meeting Palestinians for years at Orient House. We did not know the Foreign Ministry objected. In fact, recently the Foreign Ministry set up meetings for our parliamentary delegation

at Orient House."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told reporters that foreign dignitaries could visit Orient House, but it must be clear that the business discussed is unrelated to Palestinian self-rule.

Peres said the government would take "all measures at our disposal, including legal ones," to prevent them from turning east Jerusalem into a base for their self-rule government for the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

Those discussions must only be held in Gaza and Jericho, he said.

According to Annex II, Article Five of the Declaration of Principles, "the offices responsible for

carrying out the powers and responsibilities of the Palestinian Authority... will be located in the Gaza Strip and in the Jericho area pending the inauguration of the council."

"The issue is not who is talking at the Orient House, but what they are talking about," a Foreign Ministry aide said.

Foreign Ministry legal adviser Joel Singer is seeking to fashion a "guide for the perplexed" for foreign diplomats on how to deal with the new Palestinian Authority, ranging from jurisdictional issues to diplomatic etiquette.

However, Singer is also intensely involved in negotiations with the Palestinians, and has not had the time to complete the study, the sources said.

Yi'ud, Labor initial coalition agreement

Shas expected to follow after Tisha be'Av

MICHAEL YUDELMAN and DAN IZENBERG

SHAS is expected to join Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's coalition next week after Tisha be'Av, now that Yi'ud has joined the government.

Yesterday, Labor coalition chairman Eli Dayan and MK Alex Goldfarb initiated the three-page agreement between the two parties.

Dayan said the Labor Party bureau would ratify the accord next week.

The agreement awards Yi'ud one cabinet post, one deputy minister, and a seat in the inner cabinet. Gonen Segal is expected to win the energy portfolio and join the inner cabinet, while Goldfarb is to be appointed deputy housing minister.

The third member of Yi'ud, Esther Salmovitz, rejected the decision of her colleagues and said she would remain a member of the

negotiators failed to conclude — the question of the empty apartments in the settlements in the territories.

Rabin refused to accept Yi'ud's demand to put the apartments up for sale. Instead, he wrote that "the government will examine the possibility of allowing the occupation of the empty houses in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza."

The government also turned down other Yi'ud demands, including:

- an undertaking to build more roads in the territories;
- a promise not to yield Israel's claim to sovereignty over the Golan Heights;
- an iron-clad commitment to get the PLO to immediately revoke the anti-Israeli sections of their charter.

The preamble to the document pledges Yi'ud to accept the coalition guidelines established by La-

The Salmovitz anomaly Eitan's 'wild animals' Page 12

"fighting opposition."

Shas, which was waiting for Yi'ud to join first — so the fate of the government would not depend on the haredi party alone — is expected to receive the interior and religious affairs portfolios for MKs Arye Gamliel and Moshe Maiya respectively, as well as a deputy minister's position for MK Shlomo Benizri.

Benizri said "no one can come with any complaints against Shas for joining the coalition, now that a right-wing faction has done so. This had been our fear all along, that some other faction would jump into the coalition if we don't, and this is proof we were right."

Shas leaders are still working on a draft bill ensuring the status quo in religious legislation, and have been given Rabin's assurance that religious laws would only be changed with a Knesset majority of 61.

Yi'ud and Shas will give the coalition a majority of 63 MKs (assuming that Shas MK Yosef Azran and Salmovitz continue to support the opposition), plus the outside support of the five members of the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality and the Democratic Arab Party.

Rabin gave final approval to the coalition agreement after compromising on the one item which the

bor, Meretz, and Shas in 1992. Dayan said Meretz approved the agreement.

He also said Labor would try to bring Salmovitz into the coalition fold and would not take sanctions against her or Yi'ud, "even if there are problems in the first few days of the expanded coalition."

Segal made it clear that Yi'ud's three MKs are joining the coalition, not only two. He said Salmovitz, who objects to the coalition agreement, has not declared her intention to resign from the faction and therefore is bound by the agreement.

Salmovitz accused the government of "stooping to an all-time low in buying two votes for two cabinet portfolios." She said the coalition agreement was "an ugly deal carried out behind my back."

She confirmed that she had not resigned from Yi'ud, although at this point she will not receive any position.

Segal and Goldfarb reacted sharply to Eitan's accusations that they had stolen their mandate from Tsomet to join Labor in violation of Tsomet's principles.

Goldfarb said Yi'ud had in fact received legitimacy to join the government from Tsomet, which also engaged in coalition negotiations with Labor.

(Continued on Page 2)

Likud files complaint against Sheves

MICHAEL YUDELMAN and DAN IZENBERG

THE Likud yesterday filed a complaint with police against Shimon Sheves, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, based on his own admission that he obstructed the investigation into allegations against Shas MK Aryeh Deri.

Sheves told the state comptroller, who had investigated mutual accusations on the matter between Police Minister Moshe Shahal and former inspector-general Ya'acov Terner, that he had passed on to Terner Deri's request to replace the police team investigating his case.

Gil Samsonov, former Likud spokesman and head of a Likud team looking for corruption in the government, said that Sheves "admitted that he had intervened in

the inquiry process and that is extremely grave and must be looked into immediately."

"There is a definite criminal aspect here and this is only the tip of the iceberg compared to what is going on in the Prime Minister's Office. We have information on goings-on there by Sheves, who acts like it belongs to him, and is politicizing it to an extent unheard of from the days of Ben-Gurion," he said.

In Japan, Samsonov said, "a person who does what Sheves did would commit hara-kiri. In Israel, he is required only to resign, unless he announces that he did what he did under orders from the prime minister, and then the prime minister should resign."

Samsonov demanded that Rabin fire Sheves or send him on leave, and that the civil service commissioner regard him as suspected of obstructing justice and take steps against him as required by law.

(Continued on Page 2)

No bread unless millers get more dough

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THERE may be no halah on the table this Shabbat eve and bread of all kinds will be in short supply next week if the strike launched yesterday morning by workers at the nation's 20 flour mills continues.

Some 1,000 flour mill workers decided to strike after the refusal of the mill owners to discuss their wage demands, which followed a major erosion of their pay over the past two years.

The food workers organiza-

tion's national secretary, Moshe Saban-Cohen, said yesterday that the mill workers are demanding a 30% pay raise, an increase of the seniority time limit from 30 to 40 years, and the addition of two annual paid vacation days. Other demands include turning various pay additions such as overtime into pensionable components and increasing the employer's deductions for the continued study fund

from 5% to 7.5% of wages.

Cohen-Saban said that so far the employers have ignored the workers' demands and have indicated that they would only be willing to discuss them in a year from now.

He noted that the bread shortage may not be felt right away, due to the flour reserves in the bakeries, but by the end of the week there will be no ballot for Shabbat and by next week several bakeries will be supplying less or no bread to stores.

Public's boycott scuppers Redgrave visit

HELEN KAYE

VANESSA Redgrave is not coming after all. Bowing to what it called massive public pressure, the Haifa Theater has canceled both performances of *Brecht in Exile*, starring Redgrave, Ekkehard Schall, and Rade Serbedzija, scheduled for next week.

Redgrave is a long-time public supporter of the PLO, who has made virulently anti-Israel statements in the past.

Dozens of theater subscribers had threatened to cancel their subscriptions if Redgrave performed.

Haifa councilman Amit Levitan (Tsomet) organized a protest demonstration at the theater, posters advertising the event were ripped down, and obscene, anti-Redgrave graffiti were painted on the theater's walls. Of the 1,600 tickets on offer for the performances, only 150 had been sold by yesterday.

Redgrave had expressed interest in performing here after the signing of the Oslo accords. Haifa

Theater head Oded Kottler said that the decision to invite Redgrave was the right one, but "as a public institution, we have to be sensitive to public feeling. The public was antagonistic and turned itself into a summary court martial."

"It's a pity that 800 to 1,000 people couldn't be found who were prepared to see the show for its content. *Brecht in Exile* deals with the horrors of fascism in view of the emergence of neo-fascism," said Kottler.

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Peres: Israel open on status of Moslem, Christian holy places in Jerusalem

ISRAEL is "open to proposals" on determining the future status of Moslem and Christian holy places in Jerusalem, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday.

At the same time, he insisted the city must remain totally under Israeli sovereignty.

Moroccan King Hassan and Peres last month discussed the possibility of Israel providing extra-territorial status to Moslem and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem, Israeli diplomats indicated.

Hassan's remarks are given special weight, since he heads the Arab League's Jerusalem committee.

Jordan's King Hussein also recently remarked that only God can have sovereignty over Jerusalem's holy places.

Israeli officials are intrigued by the idea, as they hope to defuse the controversy over the city's future. By dealing with religious needs, they hope to divide this issue from that of political sovereignty in the city.

"If we reached an agreement with the Vatican on conducting their religious affairs, I am sure we can reach an agreement with other religions," Peres told reporters.

"I have said Jerusalem is closed politically and open religiously."

DAVID MAKOVSKY

This means that it will remain unified, and only as Israel's capital, not two capitals. It will remain under Israeli sovereignty. However, when it comes to the needs and rights of the various believers, we are open to proposals.

Peres has also sought to play up Jordan's connection to Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem, as part of a broader strategy.

Diplomatic sources say he wants to demonstrate that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat certainly does not have a monopoly on representing Arab feelings when it

comes to the holy places.

However, one cannot disregard the fact that Peres also wants to send a conciliatory message to Jordan before next week's historic meeting between both countries on Jordanian soil.

The Jordanians have been angry at Peres for being an architect of the Oslo accords with the PLO behind their back. Crown Prince Hassan has quietly ridiculed Peres in numerous meetings.

Now on the eve of the historic meeting and amid a feeling of vindication at home about his predictions last fall that there would be a breakthrough with Amman, Peres

is seeking to make amends with his Jordanian hosts.

In statements made recently to *The Jerusalem Post*, repeated almost verbatim this week on Israel Television, Peres said: "We appreciate Jordanian sensitivities concerning the holy places in Jerusalem. We do not intend to ignore them or reject them."

"The idea of King Hussein having a religious dialogue, without referring to a political dialogue, is a worthwhile approach. The king says the sovereignty of the holy places belongs to the Almighty in Heaven. I think it is an interesting expression."

Likud's Eitan calls Ran Cohen a 'kike'

DAN IZENBERG

DEPUTY Defense Minister Mordechai Gur and Meretz MK Ran Cohen walked out of the plenum yesterday after Likud MK Michael Eitan accused Cohen of being a "kike" — a pogrom-monger — and a "collaborator with terrorism."

Eitan was infuriated by a speech in which Cohen linked the right-wing opposition and the Islamic fundamentalists.

Cohen later said that Eitan ought to see a psychiatrist.

"The bestiality and hysteria of the street has penetrated the Knesset," said Cohen. "Michael Eitan's words are so low that they do not deserve a response."

The Knesset debate turned into a shouting match between Eitan, Cohen, and Meretz MK Benny Temkin, after Eitan rhetorically asked Cohen whether he held the Likud responsible for the deaths of Sarit Prigal and Aryeh Frankenthal.

Cohen: Yes.

Eitan: MK Ran Cohen, you are leading us towards a civil war.

Cohen: Who, me?

Eitan: You, with your answer. The prime minister set the tone. And you, in your foolish reply...

Cohen: Who calls IDF generals "traitors" and "killers?"

Eitan: You should be ashamed of yourself.

Cohen: Who does it? Your friends.

Eitan: You aren't worth arguing with. You should be ashamed of yourself.

Cohen: I should be ashamed while you...

Eitan: You miserable kike. You miserable kike.

Speaker Ovadia Eli tried to restore order, but Eitan continued: "You pogrom-monger, you miserable kike."

Earlier, Cohen had told the Knesset: "There exists, much to my sorrow, not a division of labor — since there is no direct connection between the Israeli right and the Hamas and Islamic Jihad — but almost a coordination of labor between the Hamas and the Islamic Jihad on the one hand, and the Israeli right on the other."

"Both cry when there are no attacks, the peace functions, the accord gains strength, and the Israeli public sighs in relief. And when there are killings who shouts out loud? Hamas, the Islamic Jihad and the Israeli right. Is it acceptable for the public to support those who are just waiting for the next killing in order to pounce on the government?" he asked.

Ashrawi, Arafat discuss beating death of Palestinian prisoner

RAINE MARCUS and news agencies

HANAN Ashrawi met with PLO leader Yasser Arafat yesterday over the case of a Gaza man beaten to death by Palestinian police.

The death triggered sharp responses from human rights groups and raised fears about the methods of the PLO police among Palestinians.

Ashrawi, a Palestinian human rights campaigner, toured the Central Prison where Farid Jarbua, 28, died during interrogation last week and later took up the case with Arafat.

"He was extremely responsive, and he insisted that this issue should be dealt with within the rule of law," Ashrawi told reporters.

"There is no attempt to cover up or a hiding of things. On the contrary."

The human rights organization, Gaza Center for Rights and Law, denounced the Jarbua killing in a report, saying Palestinian prisoners had suffered torture at the hands of Israeli interrogators.

"We will not accept the continuation of this style of detention and interrogation by the security officers of the Palestinian Authority,"

said the report.

General Prosecutor Khaled Qudra acknowledged that Jarbua died of violence under interrogation.

"Out of our respect for human rights, we have not tried to hide the facts or cover up for the suspected perpetrators," he said.

"What happened is a lesson for all of us and we will make sure it will never happen again."

The London-based Human Rights Watch association has written to Freikh Abu Meidan, who is to serve as justice minister in the Palestinian Authority, asking him to thoroughly investigate the death of Jarbua.

Acting on Abu Meidan's orders, two captains and one investigator were arrested and held in custody.

In its letter to Abu Meidan, Human Rights Watch wrote that "at this early stage of Palestinian self-rule, authorities must send clear signals that such basic violations of human rights will not be tolerated."

The association is demanding that the authorities publish findings of the investigation and the culprit's subsequent trial in full.

Abu Meidan has already said he intends to set up a department within the PA's Justice Ministry to handle public complaints about human rights violations including mistreatment of prisoners in Palestinian jails.

Court: Ben-Yair correct in decision not to prosecute Arafat

EVELYN GORDON

ATTORNEY-GENERAL Michael Ben-Yair is justified in refusing to investigate Yasser Arafat or put him on trial, the High Court of Justice ruled yesterday.

The High Court was deciding a petition by Petah Tikva resident Shimon Perchik, a lieutenant-colonel in the army reserves who heads a unit for evacuating the wounded, and Moshe Lorberbaum, wounded in a 1978 bus bombing attributed to the PLO.

The petition argued that in light of the severity of the crimes attributed to Arafat, there is no excuse for not putting him on trial. It also said that not trying Arafat constitutes discrimination against numerous others who have been tried for similar, and often for less severe, crimes.

However, Deputy President Aharon Barak and Justices Dalia Dorner and Tova Strasberg-Cohen accepted the state's argument that in light of the government's recognition of the PLO, there is no

public interest in trying Arafat, particularly since such a move would almost certainly endanger the peace process.

"Sometimes, there is no choice but not to put someone on trial... when putting him on trial would cause such severe damage to interests and values which the public wants to protect that the advantages [of putting him on trial] are as nothing in comparison," Barak wrote. It is the attorney-general's job to make this judgment, Barak continued, and a reasonable person could certainly conclude that this was the case regarding trying Arafat.

Precisely because his decision could influence the course of the peace process, the attorney-general is obligated to take the government's policy into account, added Strasberg-Cohen in a separate but concurring opinion. Otherwise, he would essentially be determining public policy, which is neither his job nor the court's.

Court upholds detention of 2 Kach activists

EVELYN GORDON

THE army is justified in extending the administrative detentions of Kach activists Naam Federman and Ben-Zion Gopstein, because of their past activities such as overturning a B'tselem stand and helping to write a laudatory obituary for Dr. Baruch Goldstein, the High Court of Justice ruled yesterday.

Federman and Gopstein were detained for three months after the February 25 Hebron massacre, along with several other Kach activists. While most of the others have since been released, the army last month extended the detention of the two for an additional three months.

The two detainees argued that the extension was unjustified, because the purpose of the detentions was to calm the situation after the massacre. Now, however, the situation has calmed down, attorney Naftali Werzberger said — the proof of this being that many other detainees were released.

However, Deputy President

Aharon Barak and Justices Eliahu Mazza and Dalia Dorner accepted the army's argument that the two detainees constituted a real danger to state security, based on their past activities and on classified intelligence information.

"The reason for the petitioners' administrative detentions is their actions in the past, which, against the background of their general behavior, creates an almost certain danger of real damage to the security of the [territories]," wrote Barak in his verdict.

In both cases, these past activities included allegations of beating Arabs and damaging their property — crimes for which the petitioners had either already served prison sentences or never been tried.

In Federman's case, the list cited by the court also included items such as overturning a B'tselem booth in Jerusalem, and helping to write Kach's obituary for

Goldstein, which described him as a martyr. In Gopstein's case, the list included items such as his arrest on suspicion of shooting two Arabs in Luban in 1990. He was released for lack of evidence.

"This [decision] does not necessarily mean the petitioners will be kept in administrative detention as long as the Arab-Israeli conflict exists," Barak wrote, responding to Werzberger's charge that the lack of justification for the extension made this a real likelihood.

"However, we are satisfied that under the present circumstances, in which any violent act [by the petitioners] is liable to incite a conflagration, the justification for the petitioners' administrative detention has not passed."

This danger was so great, Barak added, that nothing less than detention would suffice to prevent it.

Meanwhile, Kach detainees Baruch Ben-Yosef yesterday appealed the renewal of his detention order to the Supreme Court.

Police arrest 15 Palestinian youths for attacks with rocks, bottles in Old City

HERB KEINON

JERUSALEM police have arrested 15 Palestinian youths from three different gangs suspected of throwing rocks and bottles at Jews and IDF soldiers in the Old City during the past few months.

David Givati, police commander in the Old City, told Army Radio, "The arrest of 15 youths who have been throwing rocks day in and day out will be felt immediately." The youths are all aged 13 to 18, and police said that more arrests are expected.

Police intelligence work and ambushes led to the arrest of the 15, police sources said, adding that they all studied at the Dar el-

Tim school in the Old City. The school has been closed twice in the past because its pupils were involved in hostile activity.

According to police sources, the youths would wait for Jews walking to the Western Wall, or for IDF patrols, and throw rocks and bottles at them.

Rabbi Moshe Ariel, head of the Temple Institute, was among those attacked. He said that on one occasion the youths tried to kick him to the ground, and on another occasion "threw a half-kilo rock at me that miraculously missed its target."

Police sources said the police will ask that all those involved be indicted.

Eleven Golani soldiers go AWOL

ALON PINKAS

ELEVEN Golani Brigade soldiers went AWOL Monday after commanders did not submit to their demands to ease discipline and give them various privileges as "veteran soldiers."

The soldiers left their battalion and have not been seen since. The soldiers, having completed most of their three years of service, demanded that they not be forced to submit to various disciplinary codes and to be exempt from certain duties because of their seniority. For example, they asked that they be allowed to wear shorts and T-shirts in the mess hall.

Army sources said yesterday that all 11 will be court-martialed and punished to the full extent of the law.

Beersheba man wounded by terrorist fire

HERB KEINON

A BEERSHEBA man was lightly wounded yesterday morning when the car he was driving in was fired upon by terrorists on the Kishufim-Khan Yunis road, east of Deir el-Balah.

He was taken to Soroka Hospital in Beersheba. The IDF Spokesman said the area was searched and arrests were made.

According to Danya Herskovitz, spokeswoman for the Gaza Coast Regional Council, 40 bullet casings — fired from what appeared to be Kalashnikovs and M-16 automatic rifles — were found at the scene.

She said the terrorists then fled in a vehicle that was parked nearby.

Guns fired on two soldiers on the same road two weeks ago, moderately wounding one and lightly wounding the other. Hamas claimed responsibility for that attack.

Y'UD

(Continued from Page One) "Rafel [Eitan] is winning that he is stealing his mandates," Goldfarb said. "Why doesn't he go to the police? He himself was going to sign an agreement with Labor, but meanwhile he received such a kick in the balls from Meretz, that he flew out on all fours. Now he's trying to sneak back from the back door, begging to be received."

Tsomet's spokesman said "we are guilty of letting a nobody like Goldfarb into the Knesset. The reason Meretz sabotaged Tsomet's entering the coalition is that it knew we would hold Rabin to the agreement with us, unlike Y'ud, which entered only for the positions and have no principles or conscience."

DON'T WASTE PRECIOUS NATURAL RESOURCES SAVE WATER

SHEVES

(Continued from Page One) Samsonov said yesterday that his team intends to publish reports of government corruption, beginning with a report on the Prime Minister's Office, to be released next week.

Labor MK Haggai Merom hinted that unnamed individuals with ties to the Prime Minister's Office had tampered with the Knesset agenda in an attempt to bury his motion to discuss the state comptroller's report on the Temer-Shahal dispute.

He made the charge during a Knesset debate on the subject.

Merom, an arch-rival of Shimon Sheves, also noted that the civil service commissioner could take action against Sheves on the basis of the state comptroller's report.

The Labor MK, who caused a sensation two years ago, when he accused Sheves of interfering in the affairs of the ministers, told the Knesset:

"I am holding [the state comptroller's report on the Temer-Shahal dispute] and it is very grave. Since it is in my record that I warned about these kinds of actions on the part of the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office from this podium, I consider the report a confirmation that the things I warned about two years ago are coming true."

In a highly emotional address, Sheves accused the press and Merom of taking Temer's side throughout the dispute between them.

"There wasn't a journalist from the electronic to the print media, with one or two exceptions, who could refrain from sticking in another pin, while I knew that [Temer's accusations] were a lie from beginning to end," said Sheves.

"There were also members of Knesset, including Haggai Merom, who, any time a journalist wrote something good... would come to him and blast him for writing a nice word about me," he said.



An Engineering Corps recruit yesterday helps an elderly Ashkelon woman paint her apartment as part of a program launched by the Amigur government-owned housing agency to help renovate the homes. (Bernie Ardow/PPA)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hospitals pass surprise checks

At least three hospitals criticized by the state comptroller for inadequate supervision of dangerous drugs have learned their lesson — in surprise checks carried out by the Health Ministry last week, staffers were found to be following state guidelines on handling the drugs. The comptroller had found registration and supervision of these drugs were lax, and some doctors were even found to have sold supplies on the outside.

Implant victims may get compensation

Local women who want to apply for compensation for diseases they fear they have contracted (or may develop during the next 30 years) as a result of having a silicone breast implant must register with a district court in Alabama by December 1. Those interested should write to: MDL 926, Post Office Box 11683, Birmingham, Alabama 35202-1683, USA. The ministry did not say how women would be required to prove damages. For more information, call 001-312-609-8680.

Protest for Palestinian women prisoners

Faisal Hussein joined some 50 women, both Palestinians and Jews, who demonstrated in front of Sharon Prison at Tel Mond yesterday demanding the release of 36 female Palestinian security prisoners held there.

Hava Keller, an activist in a group called Women on Behalf of Palestinian Prisoners, said they are especially concerned about Rabecca Eshtey, 35, a Jerusalem woman sentenced to seven years for arms smuggling. Keller said Eshtey began a hunger strike three weeks ago and her health is in danger.

Pollard's wife here to lobby for his release

The wife of convicted spy Jonathan Pollard urged the government yesterday to demand her husband's release from a US prison.

Esther Zeitz-Pollard told Israel Television in Jerusalem, where she plans to lobby the government for help: "If Israel asked again in a very strong, clear manner and demanded something finally from the United States, [Pollard's release] could occur within 24 hours."

Winning numbers and cards

The winning numbers in last night's Lotto drawing were 3, 29, 34, 37, 41, 47. The supplementary number was 23. In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the 10 of spades, queen of hearts, eight of diamonds and king of clubs.

60 faint from heat at Aerosmith concert

Over 60 fans attending last night's Aerosmith concert in Tel Aviv's Hayarkon Park fainted due to heat stroke, police reported. Magen David Adom staff treated the victims, most of whom were near the congested stage area. Over 10,000 people attended the two-hour concert, Israel Radio reported.

Edelstein loses in Gush Etzion election

Former Prisoner of Zion Yuli Edelstein lost his bid last night to unseat Shilo Gal as head of the Gush Etzion Regional Council. Although not all the votes had been counted, a member of the elections committee said at 11:00 last night that Gal had "comfortably" defeated Edelstein.

This was the first time elections for the position were held in Gush Etzion. Gal has headed the Gush Etzion Regional Council since he was appointed by the Interior Ministry 15 years ago. Edelstein moved to Gush Etzion soon after making aliya seven years ago.

State contesting mayor's acquittal

EVELYN GORDON

THE state yesterday appealed the acquittal of Petah Tikva Mayor Giora Lev on charges of bribetaking and breach of trust.

Lev was indicted four years ago for accepting a plane ticket to Los Angeles for his wife from contractor Motti Dinovitz. Dinovitz was later awarded a construction project from the city, via improper tender procedures.

Tel Aviv District Court Judge Nathan Amit acquitted both men on May 31, saying Lev had no criminal intent in taking the ticket, and did not realize the tender procedures were improper.

In her appeal, State Attorney Dorit Beinisch said the court erred by saying it was permissible for Lev to accept help from Dinovitz "for the purposes of his public work," even if Dinovitz was competing for a tender from the city at the time. Public officials are obligated to follow proper ethical procedures at all times, she said. Furthermore, the court was wrong to say the affair could be passed over, because giving Dinovitz the contract did not harm the city.

"The lower court erred in not examining the question of the damage done to the municipality's image in the public's eyes," she wrote. Beinisch also objected to the fact that the lower court had discredited testimony from key prosecution witness Yoav Merhavi, saying Lev would never have said anything to incriminate himself.

At the same time, she protested against the court's reliance on the testimony of a key defense witness, charging that this testimony had contradicted itself, that of the defendants, and plain common sense. The defendants' testimony also contradicted their earlier statements to the police, she said.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The weekly meeting of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. R. Hiram Danin will lecture on "My Job."

Dr. RENE (Rifka) UKELES

We mourn deeply

Sister: Chana and Aharon Greenberg, Jerusalem Naava, Jonathan, David, Aviva and grandchildren Brother: Jack and Mirale Ukeles, N.Y. Yael, Raquel and Meir Funeral and shiva in New York.

On the first anniversary — Yahrzeit — of

WILLY (Mordechai) FLEGG

beloved husband, father and grandfather, a memorial service will take place on Friday, July 15 (7 Menahem Av).

A bus will leave from the corner of Jabotinsky and Ahad Haam Streets at 9 a.m. for the Mt. of Olives.



notes with sadness the passing of

JEAN STISKIN

Dedicated past president of AMIT Netanya Chug Sincere condolences are extended to the family.

Motly Belanek Treasurer Council of Chugim

Eleanor Bernstein President AMIT Netanya Chug

Shohat: Peretz holding up plan to fight poverty

AMIR ROZENBLIT

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday blasted changes Amir Peretz, chairman of the Knesset labor and social affairs committee, wants to make in the plan to fight poverty.

During a tour of the Eshkol Local Council in the Negev, Shohat explained that the changes would mean adding another NIS 70 million to the plan, beyond the NIS 70m. already added after lengthy discussions. Shohat said implementation of the plan, approved by the Labor Knesset faction, might be delayed several months because of the changes demanded by Peretz.

"I will not agree to such a demand and will not present the government with an unbalanced plan. I'm sorry to say that what Amir Peretz did will cause an additional and unnecessary delay in implementation of the plan," Shohat said.

Shohat also criticized the strike called by the heads of the country's development towns, saying it was uncalled for and painted by "political elements in the strike leadership." Shohat said he had provided unprecedented assistance to the local authorities.

Sheetrit: Use ad revenue to lower cable TV rates for poor

LIAT COLLINS

LOCAL cable television companies could be running advertising by November 1995 if the bill proposed by MK Meir Sheetrit is passed by the Knesset after its summer recess.

Yesterday the Knesset economics committee, chaired by Tzvi Hanegbi, concluded its discussion on the bill. Sheetrit proposes that 50% of the cable companies' income from advertising be used to reduce the subscription fees for the poor.

Hanegbi ordered an urgent meeting with the Attorney-General's Office to check whether the bill would violate the privacy of the thousands of social welfare recipients whose names would have to be forwarded by the National Insurance Institute to the cable companies to be eligible for the discount.

Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni, responsible for the Israel Broadcasting Authority, objected to Sheetrit's suggestion, saying the companies' subscription fees should be investigated to check whether they are realistic or too high. This should be done before they are granted a permit to run local commercials, she said.

Apart from the five cable television franchise owners, which collect the subscription fees, certain other bodies have rights to use cable channels. Aloni said she would not object to these users broadcasting commercials if they had no other means of income.

She added that the cable council was examining suggestions to run a national channel in Arabic or for the haredi sector, which would be funded by commercials. Aloni asked the committee to refrain from making its final decision on the issue of cable advertising until the High Court of Appeal has heard Sheetrit's petition on the subject.

Economics Minister Shimon Shitreet, responsible for Channel 2, said that permitting local advertising on cable stations would destroy the economic foundations on which broadcasting is based: Israel Television receives income from license fees, the cable companies from subscription fees, and Channel 2 from advertising revenue alone.

He noted that the Channel 2 franchise holders had to pay the government higher royalties over their six-year franchise period than the cable companies franchise holders had to pay over their 12-year period.

Sheetrit rejected both the ministers' complaints and said his bill would benefit the weaker population. He also claimed that local advertising would lead to greater competition, which would improve standards.

Chronic disease head named

Dr. Mark Klarfeld, a Canadian-born geriatrics expert, has been named head of the Health Ministry's division for chronic diseases. Klarfeld, a geriatrician accredited by Quebec, is also a specialist in community medicine and epidemiology. He taught internal medicine at McGill University and headed the geriatric division at Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem. He replaces Dr. Benny Habot.

Homeless families end rooftop drama

RAINE MARCUS

TEN Holon families barricaded themselves on a roof for over 12 hours yesterday to dramatize their desire for a permanent solution. The families are living in tents in the city's Jesse Cohen section, squatting on land owned by the Israel Land Administration, slated for use for building.

A solution was still not in sight last night, after the families were persuaded to come down, despite talks among the Amidar government housing company, Holon Mayor Moshe Sasson, MKs Ran Cohen and Benny Tenkin (Meretz), and the families themselves. Five of the families were reportedly dissatisfied with offers of housing in Tel Aviv.

The families barricaded themselves on the roof of Holon's three-story Amidar building at midnight Monday, refusing to come down until they were given homes. They armed themselves with a gas canister and bottles filled with gasoline, and threatened to harm themselves and others if their demands were not met.

"I'm sick of living like a gypsy," said Michal, who did not give her last name, on the roof with her three small children. "We deserve to live like human beings, we are prepared to kill ourselves if anyone tries to remove us by force."

The siege followed the families' evacuation for the second time. Around a month ago, police and housing authorities evacuated the families from the area and demol-



Homeless families barricading themselves atop the Amidar building in Holon yesterday threaten to kill themselves if no housing solution is found for them. One holds a gas canister labeled: "It's Fud's [Housing Minister Benjamin Ben-Eliezer] fault."

ished their shacks, but the squatters returned shortly afterwards claiming they had no other alternative.

Mayor Sasson said that until the evacuation Monday, all alternatives had been explored to find "a humanitarian solution" for the families. During yesterday's siege,

five families were offered apartments in Tel Aviv's Hatikva neighborhood, but said they were not prepared to leave Holon.

Neighborhood activist Freddy Dricks, the families' spokesman, said he was not willing to accept a situation where "nine families will get the cream and the remaining

will be in tears. Either we find a solution for everyone, or not at all."

At around 1 p.m. the families agreed to negotiate and allowed police to help them down from the roof. One woman was lightly injured when she fell one story after refusing police help.

Egyptian airline trying to regain Alexandria-TA flight rights

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE foreign ministries of Israel and Egypt and the American ambassador in Egypt have all been called in to help restore the rights of a private Egyptian airline to fly between Alexandria and Ben-Gurion Airport.

The flying rights were canceled earlier this week in a sudden move by the Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority, according to Merav Sued, ZAS Airlines' representative here. The company, owned by the brothers Amir and Sharif ZAS, also flies to the Gulf States.

Sued said that the announcement of the cancellation had come at 3:30 a.m. Monday, only half an hour before some 20 Egyptian businessmen were due to take off on the company's weekly flight to Israel. Another group of 29 Egyptians, Israelis, and American tourists was al-

ready waiting at Ben-Gurion Airport, she said.

"We hope that within 24 hours we will have regained our permit," Sued said.

She said that the action by the Egyptian regulatory body had come as the result of pressure from Egypt Air, the Egyptian national airline. Egypt Air does not fly to Israel, but its subsidiary, Air Sinai, does.

Sued said that Egypt Air had objected to the fact that, although the ZAS flights officially took off and landed at Alexandria, the planes came from and went on to Cairo. Sued said that this leg of the journey was a domestic Egyptian flight, which ZAS was permitted to make.

"Last night Sued was busy putting the stranded ZAS passengers from Israel on an El Al flight to Cairo."

'Post' reader's travel tip wins cruise contest

HAIM SHAPIRO

A Jerusalem Post reader has won a cruise valued at \$10,000 after she entered a contest she read about in the Post.

Lynn Krudo, who came on aliyah with her husband and three children from Chicago in 1991, entered the contest sponsored by Thomas Cook Ltd., reported on in the "Travel Tips" column, a regular feature in the Thursday paper.

Her suggestion that travelers make sure to take a supply of US dollars in small denominations had earlier won the Israel contest,

bringing with it a prize of \$1,000 in Thomas Cook travelers' checks. Yesterday she received a letter telling her she had won the world prize, which entitles her to a choice of cruises in the Mediterranean, the Baltic, or the Caribbean, including air fare, for a total value of up to \$10,000.

The idea for this suggestion came after having been stuck in airports with her family, with everyone hungry or thirsty, and no cashier willing to make change for a \$100 bill.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Motorcyclist, pedestrian killed on roads

A 28-year-old motorcyclist was fatally injured in Tel Aviv late Monday night when he was hit by a car making an illegal left turn. Jamal Abu Raka of Kafr Masa in the Galilee was riding on Rehov Hayarkon when he was hit by the car at the corner of Arlosoroff. He died at Ichilov Hospital.

The 69-year-old woman driving the car was detained for questioning and later released on her own recognizance.

Police also reported yesterday that on Monday, Sofia Morris, 68, was killed when she was hit by a Dan bus in Jaffa. The 25-year-old bus driver was questioned and released.

Girl critical after pool accident

An eight-year-old girl was pulled unconscious from a Holon swimming pool yesterday after she wandered off from a swimming lesson in the shallow water to the deep water and sank. Etti Sheviro of Holon was given artificial respiration by the lifeguard and was taken unconscious to Wolfson Hospital, where she was placed in the intensive care ward, unconscious and in critical condition.

Disabled teenagers go kayaking

Thirty-one severely disabled teenagers and young adults who spend most of their time in wheelchairs were taken by Yad Sarah yesterday on a three-day kayak trip in the North. The young people, aged 15 to 20, who suffer serious physical and mental disabilities, were accompanied by parents, social workers, and volunteers to the Jordan River and Lake Kinneret. Yad Sarah hopes other organizations will help arrange and finance similar fun trips for other disabled young people.

Bank fumigator illegally kills bats

Scores of insect-eating bats have been illegally destroyed by a fumigator in a Tel Aviv bank, according to Dr. Benny Shalmon, a specialist with the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

The bats lived behind the bank's neon sign and when they accidentally entered the offices, staffers called in a fumigator, who spread a glue-like pigeon-deterrent on the sign. The liquid dripped into the niche where the bats lived, painfully killing scores of them, Shalmon said. He noted that the bats are a protected species and said the bank should have welcomed the creatures, which reduce the insect population.

Chico Zohar sentenced for sex offenses

Magician Yitzhak (Chico) Zohar was sentenced to five months' community service and 18 months' probation yesterday by the Tel Aviv District Court, after confessing to one charge of statutory rape and three counts of molestation.

Zohar had intercourse with one girl who had auditioned to be his assistant, and later molested her friend, who also auditioned. When these cases were publicized, another girl came forward.

The prosecution had demanded a jail term, but Judge Amnon Strashnov said he had to take into account Zohar's poor financial situation, his confession, and expressions of remorse.

Klezmer fest looks for bride and groom

Brides and grooms eager to tie the knot in style should contact Safed klezmer musicians, as the musicians are looking for a couple interested in getting married during the upcoming Klezmer Festival. Festival organizer Zecharia Liraz said the couple would get a free weekend in a hotel, clothes, and a wedding to remember. The festival is scheduled for July 26-28.



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Clinton celebrates in unified Berlin

BARRY SCHWEID
BERLIN

PRESIDENT Clinton, standing before the Brandenburg Gate that once symbolized divided Europe, urged people yesterday to overcome modern-day forces of division and racism. In well-rehearsed German, he said: "Everything is possible. Berlin is free!"

"We stand where Europe's heart was cut in half and we celebrate unity," said Clinton, the first US president to visit reunited Berlin and the first to set foot in the eastern sector since Harry Truman in 1945.

Speaking to tens of thousands of Berliners in what was once communist-controlled East Berlin, Clinton declared: "We must reject those who would divide us with scolding words about race, ethnicity or religion."

The comments were aimed at not only ethnic strife in Bosnia and elsewhere, but at the recent resurgence of extremist groups such as neo-Nazis in Germany.

Later, Clinton presided over a ceremony deactivating the US Army's elite Berlin Brigade, which once confronted the Soviets and East Germans at Checkpoint Charlie and supervised the exchange of political prisoners.

The ceremony marked the end of a 49-year US military presence in Berlin, although US troops will remain in other parts of Germany.

Pariser Platz, the plaza beneath Brandenburg Gate, was packed with people for Clinton's earlier speech. Police estimated the crowd at 40,000 even though the White House claimed a size of 120,000 or more. Many were school children given the day off for Clinton's visit.

Clinton took a cue from his political hero, US President John F. Kennedy, and delighted the crowd by uttering several phrases in German.

"Nichts wird uns aufhalten. Alles ist möglich! Berlin ist frei," Clinton said, then repeating in English: "Nothing will stop us. Everything is possible. Berlin is free."

"Half a century has past since Berlin was first divided," Clinton said in his 10-minute, impassioned speech. "In that time, one half of this city lived encircled and the other half enslaved. But one force endured: your courage."

The 200-year-old Brandenburg Gate stands in the eastern sector of the city. Before the wall sealed off the gate as well as the rest of East Berlin, it had been one of the crossing points between east and west.



US President Bill Clinton and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, and their wives Hillary and Annaliese, pose by the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin yesterday.

The wall was built in 1961 and torn down in 1989. Germany was reunited in 1990.

"The Berlin Wall is gone," Clinton said. "Now our generation must decide what will we build in its place."

Many of his comments were greeted with cheers and applause. "That he even came to this side of

the Brandenburg Gate, I never would have believed that I would experience that," said Karin Pehla, a 39-year-old computer programmer. An East Berliner, she had tears in her eyes.

Some expressed distaste for Clinton's reference to Cold War Berlin as "one-half encircled and the other half enslaved."

Clinton's visit coincided with a ruling today by Germany's highest court that German troops can be sent abroad on UN missions, reversing a postwar policy adopted to keep the country from ever again becoming a military threat. "I am completely comfortable with that," Clinton said of the decision. (AP)

US leader visits Germany's biggest synagogue

BERLIN (AP) - US President Clinton saw a quirk of history yesterday - the largest synagogue in Germany and one of the very few that escaped destruction by the Nazis during Kristallnacht.

Clinton had expressed a desire to see what today's revived Jewish community is doing in Berlin. The New Synagogue, with its brilliant gold-decorated Oriental domes, was put on his schedule between his speech at the Brandenburg Gate and a ceremonial visit to City Hall in the German capital.

His host was Ignatz Bubis, head of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, who said he believed Clinton asked for the tour because of evidence of growing racism in Europe.

Though the New Synagogue on Oranienburger Strasse in former East Berlin was only lightly damaged by rampaging Nazi thugs on November 10, 1938, Allied bombing wrecked it in November 1943.

It remained a ruin until the late 1980s, when Communist East Germany sought to win favor with the United States and underline its denial of responsibility for the Holocaust by rebuilding the synagogue.

Reconstruction started in 1988 and continued after German unification in 1990.

The reconstruction is only partial. Berlin had 170,000 Jews before the war. Now the city's Jewish population has climbed back to 10,000, thanks to recent immigration from the former Soviet Union. There's no need for a synagogue that seats more than 3,000 people, as the New Synagogue did when it was built in 1866.

The soaring facade and the onion-shaped domes have been restored, along with the lobby and two vestibules, but not the main hall, the ruins of which were pulled down years ago. Vaulted ceilings have been left undecorated to show the extent of damage; only a few pieces of stained glass were found to put in the windows.

A room in the tower is to become a small synagogue, though Gerlach said religious "authorities" haven't decided how Orthodox it will be.

On Kristallnacht, the New Synagogue was not spared the attacks. But the head of the local police precinct, Wilhelm Krutzfeld, came storming along with drawn pistol and a document declaring the synagogue a building of historic and cultural value.

Krutzfeld drove out the arsonists and ordered the fire brigade to put out the blaze. The damage had been repaired by Passover in 1939. But in 1940, the German army took over the building and was using it as a storehouse for textiles and leather goods when it was ruined by British bombing raids November 22, 1943.

The partial restoration, to be completed next year, is costing 80 million marks (\$50 million).

Six gored in Pamplona

PAMPLONA, Spain (AP) - Six people, including one American, were gored yesterday as they dashed through the streets of Pamplona ahead of a herd of fighting bulls.

It was the bloodiest day so far in this year's San Fermin festival, an annual show of bravado made famous in Ernest Hemingway's 1926 novel, *The Sun Also Rises*.

Four die in Algiers gun battle

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) - Gunmen ambushed a police patrol near the Italian Embassy yesterday, setting off a gun battle that killed four people a day after 11 died in attacks linked to a Muslim fundamentalist insurgency.

Two of the gunmen, believed to be Moslem militants, and two police died in the gunbattle in the hills of Algiers normally considered a relatively secure area for diplomats and other foreigners.

A third gunman was arrested by security forces sent to assist the patrol which was attacked in an unmarked car, said authorities on condition of anonymity.

The latest attacks have increased fear among foreigners that the military-backed government was unable to ensure their safety. Seven East Europeans died Monday, bringing to 51 slain in a campaign aimed at undermining a government dependent on foreign expertise.

Despite the violence, the US oil company Arco signed a 25-year contract with state-owned Sonatrach to develop a field in the Sahara at a cost of \$1 billion, the government said.

About 4,000 people have been killed in political violence since January 1992, when the military canceled parliamentary elections that the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front was virtually cer-

tain to win. Foreigners have been targeted since September, and many of the victims have been workers for government-owned companies including Sonatrach, the petroleum firm that generates the lion's share of the country's export revenue.

After assailants slit the throats of seven Italian sailors last week, an official who returned to Rome after a fact-finding mission said yesterday that Italy's estimated 600 nationals remaining in Algeria may have to be repatriated.

"If the situation doesn't improve, we must bring home the Italians. Without political stability, there's nothing to be done," said Mirko Tremaglia, head of Parliament's foreign affairs commission.

Tremaglia asked how foreigners could continue to live in virtual armed camps. "It's like they're going to war instead of to work. In the fields and construction sites there's barbed wire, the army, armored cars," he said.

But the political solution Tremaglia and other foreign officials are demanding appeared far off. The government refuses to talk with groups that don't renounce violence and the more extremist militants seek nothing less than the overthrow of the regime.

New cease-fire in Bosnia, but fighting continues

SARAJEVO (AP) - Bosnian Serbs and the Moslem-led government agreed yesterday to a new cease-fire sought by international mediators posting a partition plan on the warring parties.

As in all other truces in the 27-month war, fighting continued on the main battlefronts despite a recent truce that expired Saturday.

But UN officials sought a new agreement believing that even an ignored truce would demonstrate at least symbolic willingness to find a political solution.

UN special envoy Yasushi Akashi said in Sarajevo that the Bosnian government has already signed the new agreement for a four-week cease-fire through August 10. The Bosnian Serbs have given verbal assurance that they would do likewise.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic pledged separately that non-Serbs in the Banja Luka region would not be discriminated against, but he turned down a re-

quests for Akashi to visit and to send peacekeepers to the region. Akashi said.

Serbs have been pushing Croats, Moslems and gypsies out of the area with threats and violence in an effort to create an ethnically pure area.

A peace plan written by the United States, Russia, Germany, France and Britain would give ethnic Serbs 49 percent of Bosnian territory and a Moslem-Croat federation the rest. Serbs hold more than 70 percent.

European Union negotiator Lord Owen said the Moslem-Croat federation and Serbs could "make adjustments among themselves," meaning possible exchanges of territory.

The combatants have only until July 19 to accept the plan, or face tougher international sanctions.

Leaders of Bosnia's Moslem-led government already recommended that their parliament endorse the proposal.

UN agrees to withdraw observers from Haiti

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - Pressured by the Haitian government, the United Nations agreed yesterday to withdraw its 100 human rights observers from Haiti in the next day or so.

Spokesman Joe Sills said the Organization of American States agreed with the decision to pull out, rather than defy an expulsion order by the army-backed government in Haiti.

President Clinton said the expulsion order, issued Monday, was "just the latest expression of the desperation of that illegal regime" which ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide from office in 1991.

Washington is considering a military intervention and is urging other countries to follow its lead and freeze the coup backers' financial assets.

The UN Security Council was discussing Haiti yesterday and was told of the decision to withdraw. Sills did not say how the UN workers would be evacuated. International air flights have been suspended.

The Haitian government accused the UN observers on Monday of disrupting state security and ordered them to leave within 48 hours.

The observers were expected to leave after by charter aircraft on a scheduled Air France flight to Guadeloupe, one of only three weekly commercial flights to Haiti following a US-led ban on air traffic that took effect June 24.

Observers have blamed the army and its allies for much of the political violence in Haiti that has killed up to 3,000 people since Aristide's ouster.

Tass: Russia offers to train Chinese military

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russia offered China help yesterday in training its military specialists to use advanced Russian Sukhoi-27 warplanes and S-300 air defense missiles, Tass news agency said.

Tass said the offer was made in Moscow during a meeting between Russian and Chinese military delegations led by defense ministers Pavel Grachev and Chi Haotian. It did not say what interest the Chinese side had shown in buying the systems.

The Su-27 is prized as one of Russia's top military aircraft and, in the past, was delivered only to trusted allies. Moscow has been pressing hard to sell the S-300 air defense system, which it insists is more flexible and quicker than the Patriot missiles used by the United States in the Gulf War.

Russia's readiness to sell its most advanced equipment to China, for decades an uncompromising ideological enemy, reflects a significant warming in relations.

"Relations between Russia and the People's Republic of China are strengthening from year to year," Grachev said after signing an agreement with Chi designed to avoid incidents that could lead to conflict.

The agreement "To prevent dangerous military activity" sets down mechanisms to avoid incidents that could result from unintended border crossings by the military of either side, unsanctioned missile launches or radio interference.

Grachev called the agreement a step towards the strengthening of common security along the world's longest land frontier of 4,000 kilometers.

India, Pakistan to expel diplomats

NEW DELHI, India (AP) - India and Pakistan issued expulsion orders yesterday against diplomats from each other's embassies, accusing them of receiving classified documents.

It was the first case in more than a year of tit-for-tat expulsions and marked a continuing decline in relations between two countries that are virtually in a state of low-level war.

Indian federal agents arrested an official of Pakistan's high commission Monday in a fashionable shopping district after he had taken 117 pages of documents from an unidentified local contact, who fled, police said.

The Pakistan High Commission, or embassy, complained that Mohammad Afjal Bajwa was shoved into a car and beaten. A diplomat, First Secretary Na-

seeruddin Ahmed, was later accused of spying in the same affair. Both were ordered to leave India within a week, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Arif Khan.

Bajwa reportedly was paid 3,000 rupees (\$100) and a carton of cigarettes.

Hours after Bajwa's arrest, an Indian diplomat was detained in Islamabad and accused of "receiving highly sensitive documents from a Pakistani agent," said Pakistan's Foreign Ministry.

V.S. Chauhan, an attache in the visa section, was ordered out within seven days, it said.

Each country denied that its officials were engaged in espionage, and accused the other of violating a two-year-old agreement on the treatment of diplomats that forbids harassment and intimidation.

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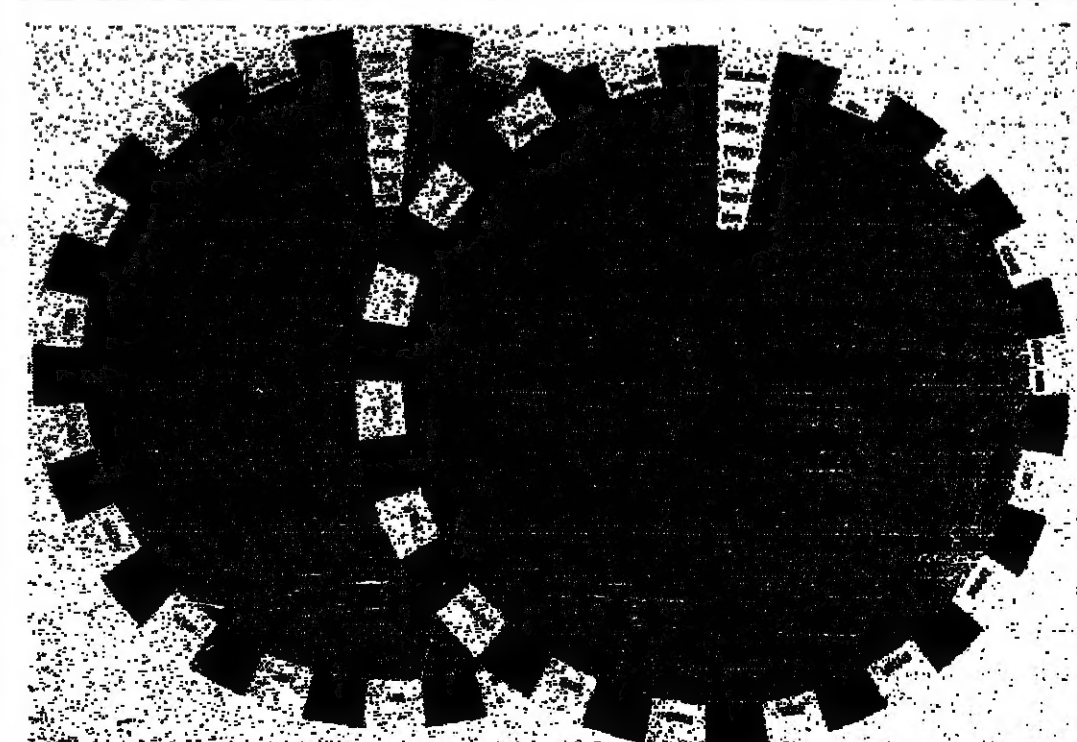
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Deadly indifference still menaces north Iraqi Kurds

ANALYSIS

OFRA BENGIO

TWO new concepts emerged in the Middle East following the Gulf war: Gaza-Jericho "Palestine" and north Iraqi "Kurdistan."

The first gained broad international support, but the second aroused grave reservations bordering on hostility. For the international community, the Kurds were a humanitarian issue, not a political one.

This attitude was consistent with the world's indifference to the 25 years of war waged against its Kurdish citizens by the Iraqi Ba'ath regime. This included the genocidal annihilation of hundreds of thousands of Kurds, the destruction of 4,000 villages and far-reaching environmental, social and cultural damage to the Kurdish community.

The international community justified its double-standard policy on the Kurds with various historical and geographical arguments based on long-standing but outmoded concepts. These included:

- the sanctity of the post-World War I borders of Middle Eastern states;
- the fear of the effects which an independent Kurdish entity might have on the West's important ally, Turkey - with its large Kurdish minority;
- Concern over the possible breakup of

Iraq into Sunni, Shi'ite and Kurdish statelets, severely altering the balance of power in favor of Iran;

• the unwillingness to antagonize Arab states for whom Iraq's integrity was of cardinal importance.

More recently, a new justification was added - the fear of opening another Bosnia-style Pandora's box.

None of these arguments remains valid after the Gulf war. The most absurd and cynical relates to the sanctity of borders, since Iraq violated the principle by seeking to annex Kuwait. After losing the mother of all battles, Iraq still refused to abandon its claim to Kuwait.

As to Turkish sensitivities, Turkey has emerged as the sole lifeline to the Kurdish entity in north Iraq. Iraqi Kurdish representatives come and go via Turkey, and allied air cover from Incirlik is the main guarantor of Kurdish survival against Saddam Hussein.

Turkey's volte-face in abandoning its alliance with Iraq against the Kurds came from the new realities in the post-Gulf war period. Moreover, the alternative to supporting the Iraqi Kurds was even more dangerous - the possible flight of a million or more Kurds into Turkey similar to the influx that oc-

curred in March and April of 1991.

Turkish support may indeed be half-hearted, but it is essential for Iraqi Kurdistan's survival.

The worst-case Western scenario has been the breakup of Iraq and the anointing of fundamentalist Iran as unchallenged regional power. But Iraqi Kurdistan has never provided a barrier to Iranian expansion. If Kurdish irredentism has reached a critical point in Iraq, it is because of Baghdad's own policies, not because of Iranian meddling, which has had little impact.

Iraq's 1991 decision to withdraw its forces from Kurdistan and to impose an internal embargo (on top of the allied external one) was supposed to cause the collapse of the Kurds' economic, social and administrative structures.

As has often been the case, Baghdad's efforts boomeranged and, far from crushing the Kurds, merely pushed them into running their own affairs. In any case, the removal of the Kurdish "bone" from Iraq's "throat" may have made

Saddam's job of resisting Iranian military pressure easier.

THE "ARAB sensitivities" argument is also gone - if only because of the number of Arab countries that support the Kurds. In front is Syria, whose historic support for one faction, that of Jalal Talabani, has been extended in the last two years.

Kuwait too has begun to extend support in the belief that a strong Kurdistan will weaken Saddam and further strengthen its own chances of survival. Talabani, Masoud Barzani and other Kurdish leaders are now *persona grata* in Arab states like Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

The new comparison between Kurdistan and Bosnia is out of place. Unlike Bosnia, Kurdistan is a compact, homogeneous area. Its people have a well-developed national consciousness. And, unlike in Bosnia, an allied air umbrella was established rapidly and has successfully deterred Saddam from

attacking the Kurds.

In fact a Bosnia-like situation could develop only if the allies showed a similar lack of resoluteness and abandoned the Kurds to their fate, leading to similar damage to Western interests and prestige.

The Kurdish national movement, which has been fighting for autonomy in the north for decades, has succeeded in entering the window of opportunity opened by the Gulf war. It has set up a more or less working autonomous government.

It appears to have learned from bitter experience and ceased to be a mere tool in the hands of others. With newfound sophistication it adopted a federalized-state resolution for post-Saddam Iraq to ally the fears of Iraq's neighbors - especially Turkey - about the Balkanization of the region.

No less important for the Kurdish leadership's international standing has been its studied refusal to use terrorism in support of the cause - unlike the PKK in Turkey or the Palestinians.

Yet, despite their significance, these achievements remain extremely fragile. The Kurds' future is fraught with danger.

Continuing uncertainty and economic distress partially accounts for the renewal of factional violence in recent months.

In the long run the Kurdish entity's only hope for survival lies in resolute Western support, material and moral. More immediately, any move towards lifting the UN embargo on Iraq must not be done at the Kurds' expense.

If the Kurds had received a tiny fraction of the political and economic support and media attention granted to the Palestinians, their situation would be vastly more secure.

The alternative to such support in the months and years ahead could be disaster. The economy could collapse, Saddam could restart his war of extermination, refugees could pour into Turkey, and a crucial region could be destabilized.

The international community is compelled both by principles and interests to prevent this truly nightmarish scenario from being realized.

The writer is a research associate at the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African studies at Tel Aviv University and is author of *The Kurdish Revolt in Iraq* (Tel Aviv, 1989).

Yemen's Saleh now appeasing Gulf Arabs

YOUSSEF AZMEH
DUBAI

YEMENI President Ali Abdullah Saleh, virtually isolated in a corner of the Arabian peninsula, has moved quickly to repair ties with powerful Saudi-led Gulf Arabs who opposed his use of force to crush southern dissent.

Diplomats in the region said Saleh was apparently trying to preempt any action by his neighbors that may encourage southern leaders who fled abroad to foment trouble in southern areas he has recaptured after two months of civil war.

He was also seeking to reassure Saudi Arabia and others in the Gulf that Sanaa would be a good neighbor and that they should not see his ties with anti-Western Iraq, Iran and Sudan as directed against them, the diplomats said.

Saleh summoned the Saudi ambassador in Sanaa to pass on a message to Saudi Arabia's King Fahd expressing his government's "eagerness to turn over a new leaf in Yemeni-Saudi relations," *Sanaa Radio* reported.

The southern Yemeni strongman who took control in the southern bastion of Aden last week after driving out secessionist opponents, has set repairing relations with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arabs as one of his top priorities.

His prime minister, Mohammed Said al-Attar, sent a letter to the UN only hours after Saleh's military victory on July 7, pledging, among other things, to promote relations with neighbors in the Arabian peninsula and the Gulf.

Saleh called United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zaid bin Sultan al-Nahayan by telephone the day after the fall of Aden, apparently trying to appease the one Gulf leader who has openly chided him for using force against southern Yemenis.

Gulf diplomats said that these unusual overtures by a man trying busily to rebuild a country shattered by two months of civil war signaled Sanaa's deep worry about

the consequences of continued hostility by angry and rich neighbors.

The moves came despite the wide currency in Sanaa of reports, rarely confirmed by named officials, that southern secessionists received significant military and financial aid from Gulf neighbors.

The diplomats said Saleh, now that he has won his war, is aware that the onus was on him to bring around Gulf states that have yet to forgive him for showing sympathy with Saddam Hussein after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

His Gulf war stance led to a cut in vital Gulf aid to impoverished Yemen and the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of expatriate Yemeni workers from the oil states of the region.

Gulf states fear that a strong, united Yemen of 13 million people in a thinly populated peninsula might covet their riches, as Saddam did Kuwait's wealth, they said.

Gulf states are also deeply suspicious of Sanaa's relations with the anti-Western regional powers and of Saleh's domestic alliance with Moslem fundamentalist forces antagonistic to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arabs, they added.

Despite Saleh's approaches, Saudi Arabia has so far kept its distance and seems to be maintaining its hostility towards Sanaa. It has given refuge to Saleh's exiled opponents and lobbied hard at the UN and the Group of Seven meeting of the world's richest nations to maintain Sanaa's isolation.

Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Saudi Arabia's influential Washington ambassador and a nephew of King Fahd, flew unexpectedly to Sanaa on the eve of the G7 summit.

Western officials said he pleaded for help to prevent the Yemen war from sowing instability elsewhere in the region - in effect calling for Saleh's isolation. (Reuters)

Bloodshed thrusts Algeria on to G7 agenda

PAUL TAYLOR
NAPLES

THE chilling murder of seven Italians - their throats cut as they slept on their ship in an Algerian port - thrust bloody civil strife onto the agenda of the Group of Seven world leaders' summit which ended at the weekend.

Meeting in Naples, barely an hour's plane ride away, the leaders discussed the potential threat to the whole Mediterranean region from instability in Algeria.

Guerrillas murdered seven more foreigners on Monday, shooting a Romanian and four Russians, oil workers in a bus ambush, and two Yugoslavs who were dining in a restaurant. At least 50 foreigners have now died in Algeria's 30 months of political violence.

At least 3,700 people - up to 8,000 according to French military intelligence - have been killed since an army-appointed council scrapped a general election in 1992 in which the Islamic Salvation Front had taken a commanding lead.

The G7 urged a dialogue between the government and nonviolent opponents, but at French insistence omitted any reference to the main Islamic movement, the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS).

Some of France's partners originally wanted to mention the FIS by name in the communiqué but the French insisted it was up to the Algerian government to choose whom it wanted to talk to.

Two of the main summit protagonists, the US and France, had been at odds over how to deal with the problem of Moslem fundamentalists fighting to overthrow a hardline, army-backed government in the former French territory.

France backs the authorities to the hilt politically and financially, despite the scale of repression, arguing that the alternative is



Algerian anti-terrorist police, known as Ninjas, patrol an Algerian suburb last November after attacks aimed at foreigners. For the last 1½ years, the country has experienced a growing wave of violence against foreigners which continued last week, as seven Italians were killed on a ship at an Algerian port. (AP)

chaos, the spread of militant fundamentalism across North Africa and a flood of refugees to Europe.

"We are going to talk about Algeria in terms of showing that this is a primordial issue for us," said Anne Lauvergeon, President Francois Mitterrand's special representative to the G7.

Following Algeria's acceptance of an IMF economic reform package in April and the rescheduling of its \$26 billion debt last month, Paris pressed its European Union and G7 partners to join in pumping financial aid into Algeria.

The country faces its worst drought in 50 years, falling oil and gas revenues and highly sensitive price increases in basic foodstuffs such as bread to meet the IMF's terms.

The US, while acknowledging France's vital interests in Algeria, has been trying to push unreciprocated Algerian rulers towards power-sharing with "moderate" Islamists.

President Clinton spelled out that policy on a visit to Paris last month, urging the Algerian authorities publicly to broaden their

political base by negotiating with opponents, including Moslem activists, who forswear violence.

The French react with irritation to the US policy.

"What do they know about Algeria? What are their interests there? What do they risk if the Islamists take over?" a French official asked.

But Washington sees Algeria as a test-bed for a more receptive policy towards Moslem political movements in the Third World, drawing lessons from the Iranian revolution, where militant Islam turned viciously anti-American.

The State Department last month gave a warm public welcome to Hocine Ait Ahmed, leader of the main democratic opposition party, the Socialist Forces Front (FSF), which opposed the 1992 constitutional coup and favors dialogue with the Islamists.

It has also lured Algiers and Paris by holding quiet talks with exiled FIS leaders based in Washington and Germany.

Algerian President Liamine Zerroual has had his own contacts with the main jailed FIS leaders in Blida prison, but he has spurned

their calls for a television debate or public meeting.

Diplomats said the security forces had dealt a serious blow to Islamic militants with a bloody crackdown since March, which might explain why the FIS political leadership was now more interested in a cease-fire and negotiations.

Some believe the political leaders also fear being eclipsed by the extreme Islamic Armed Group (GIA), which has played a growing role in the armed struggle with spectacular attacks on foreigners and Algerian intellectuals.

With more than a million residents of Algerian origin, France is keen to prevent the crisis from becoming a domestic problem in the run-up to next May's

presidential election.

"The worse things get in Algeria, the more the Algerian community in France is bound to become a second battlefield between the fundamentalists and the authorities," a French official said.

More than 1,000 Russians work in Algeria and six others have been killed since terrorists began targeting foreign residents. The biggest single number of foreigners to die were 12 Croat Christian technicians who had their throats cut last December. The killings sparked a mass exodus of foreigners, particularly of French.

Among other foreign victims were a Tunisian Jew, 10 Frenchmen, a Colombian, Peruvian, Filipino, Spaniard, Briton, Belgian and a Vietnamese. (Reuters)

Relatives of murdered Christian priests arrested

PARIS - The relatives of two slain Iranian Christian priests whose bodies were found in Teheran recently have been arrested to conceal official complicity in the killings, a Paris-based opposition group says.

"They were detained because they knew that the two clergymen died shortly after their arrests by the Iranian government, and had not disappeared as the authorities claim," said Manouchehr Ganji, head of the Organization for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for Iran.

Ganji said the detained men were Farhad Sabokrou of Ahwaz, Hossein Shah-Jamali of Shiraz and two other people he identified only as Banijai and Yunes.

Speaking in a telephone interview, Ganji said he did not know the exact kinship of the four to the dead priests, but added that the information came from "authoritative sources" in Iran who had proved reliable in the past.

The bullet-riddled body of the Rev. Tazoo Michaelian of the St. John Armenian Presbyterian Church in Iran was found in Teheran June 29. Less than a week later, the body of Bishop Mehdi Dehaj of the Assemblies of God Evangelical Church was discovered in a Teheran park.

Iran's Shi'ite Moslem government has blamed the killings on the Iraq-based Mujahideen Khalq opposition group, but the rebels have denied any involvement.

Ganji's group has no affiliation with the Mujahideen Khalq. The Teheran coroner's office says the bodies of the clergymen were being returned to their fam-

ilies following autopsies.

The head of the coroner's office, Hassan Towfigi, told the Iranian agency the bodies would be handed over to the bereaved on condition they show "valid documents proving their relationship with the two pastors."

Dehaj, a Moslem who had converted to Christianity, had been sentenced to death for apostasy, or abandoning Islam. He spent 10 years in prison and was freed earlier this year after an international campaign for his release.

But under Iran's Islamic Penal Code apostasy is not pardonable - and any citizen can carry out the execution.

In December 1991 the Rev. Hossein Soodmand, who had converted from Islam to Christianity 20 years before, was executed in the northeastern city of Mashhad.

Another priest, Bishop Haik Hovsepian Mehr, who had played a leading role in the campaign to free Dehaj, was found dead on a Teheran street in January, a few days after Dehaj was freed.

Dehaj and Mehr were both evangelists involved in proselytizing in Iran. Iranian law strictly forbids missionary work for any faith except Islam.

The state-run Islamic Republic News Agency said authorities had uncovered another plot by the Mujahideen to kill another Christian cleric, Bishop Traj Mottahedeh of the Church of St. Luke in Isfahan.

According to the most recent official figures, there are 310,000 Christians, mostly Armenian Orthodox, in Iran, which has 60 million people. (News Agencies)

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A broader coalition

THE Y'ud Knesset faction, a splinter of the Tsomet Party, was born in sin. Only Israel's inane electoral system made its formation possible. In their own right, its members could not have been elected dog catchers. Totally unknown to the general public, they were swept into the Knesset only because Rafael Eitan, who scored a stunning personal victory in the election, included them on his list.

They have Eitan's hubris to thank for their selection. He chose them deliberately over far more qualified candidates, like Yoash Tsiddon, because he wanted to show that only he mattered. He believed the people would vote for his leadership even if he ran with nonentities. He was right at the time, but Eitan lived to rue his decision.

That members of the Knesset, elected only because they were chosen by a popular leader, can turn their backs both on him and his platform in mid-term testifies to the failings of the current system. To make matters worse, two of these members, who have no constituency and less experience, will now get ministerial positions. Y'ud's No. 1, Gonen Seggev, will apparently be appointed energy minister; his colleague Alex Goldfarb will be deputy housing minister. Never have so few gained so much for doing so little.

And yet their joining the coalition is a step which, under the circumstances, must be welcome. The government has so tilted to the left, its policies and attitudes have become so like the Meretz program, that a minister with a more hawkish orientation may provide a little balance. His presence at the government table may also give courage to the less dovish Labor ministers, now in a minority and out of favor. With a little luck, it may even remind Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of the things he stood for before Oslo.

Indeed, some recent government moves seem

to indicate a slight hardening of positions. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, for instance, sounded particularly tough yesterday on the issue of PLO diplomatic activity conducted from Orient House in Jerusalem instead of Gaza and Jericho. Police Minister Moshe Shahal, too, has warned Faisal Hussein against such activity. This is in line with the coalition agreement between Labor and Y'ud, which includes a central clause calling not only for the prevention of such activity, but for a prohibition against the establishment of any Palestinian Authority institution in Jerusalem.

Other clauses in the agreement include a Labor promise to insist on PLO adherence to Yasser Arafat's commitment to abolish the genocidal parts of the PLO charter, and a renewed pledge to resist the establishment of a Palestinian state and the exercise of the "right of return" by former Palestinian refugees. Labor even promises to examine the possibility of allowing some newly-built houses in Judea and Samaria, now standing empty, to be inhabited.

All these pledges may meet the fate of campaign promises. Labor may ignore them as soon as Y'ud joins the coalition, in the not unreasonable assumption that a minister will find it much easier to placate his conscience than to unguish himself from a ministerial chair. Moreover, the entry of Y'ud will make Shas more eager to rejoin the coalition, making Labor less concerned about its partners' sensibilities.

But it would be foolish to underestimate the impact of dissenting voices in cabinet meetings, and the feeling of responsibility to a broader constituency that a broader coalition inevitably brings. Seggev is a young man. He knows that if he wants to have a political career, he will have to act as more than just an opportunist who sold his soul for a two-year stint as a minister.

Redgrave rejected

PEOPLE do some of the most persuasive voting with their feet. That citizens of the Soviet empire were willing to risk their lives to escape it provided the most effective indictment of the Soviet system. That the Western countries have immigration laws - to control the flow of the multitudes that want to enter them - while the Soviet countries had emigration laws to prevent their inhabitants' departure summarizes the difference between freedom and life under the Communist yoke.

It is therefore particularly pleasing to note that Vanessa Redgrave's appearance in Haifa was canceled, not because of a government decision to deny her the right to enter Israel, but because the public, voting with its feet, decided to stay away from her performance. The advance ticket sale did not reach 10 percent of capacity, and many Haifa Theater subscribers had threatened to cancel their subscriptions if she appeared.

Not that a government decision to keep her out would have been incomprehensible. It would have been as justified as, say, Australia's decision to

keep Holocaust revisionist-historian David Irving out. The reasons would have been legitimate: her presence might have triggered public disorder, and a substantial part of her wages would have been paid by the Israeli taxpayer, who subsidizes the theater.

Nor is Redgrave just another showbiz personality spouting trendy anti-Israel clichés. She has supported Libya's Muammar Gaddafi, financed a PLO propaganda film which accused the "Zionist gangs" of the Sabra-Shatila massacres, and participated in demonstrations for Saddam Hussein during the Gulf War. And, as one commentator has put it, for decades she has missed no opportunity to condemn Israel in terms that would do the Nazi *Shurnal* proud.

Yet it would have been wrong to ban her. There is no law against her appearance here or anywhere else. As this paper said last month when her scheduled appearance was announced, the only thing to wish for is that the public would vote with its feet and avoid her performance. To its great credit, it did.



Soft drinks vs. slogans

AMIEL UNGAR

I was quite predictable that the Rabin government would attempt to transpose the Kiryat Arba apartment protest into a test of law, portraying itself as the valiant defender of democratic civilization against the barbarian settler hordes.

Particularly duplicitous are the efforts to invoke the Shamgar Commission which investigated the massacre at the Cave of the Patriarchs.

Only a few weeks ago, the left lambasted the commission for failing to declare open season on the Jewish settlers. Now government ministers crudely distort the report - which was equally critical of law enforcement against Arab crime - to sanction government chicanery.

The refusal to allow Jews to enter completed apartments beyond the Green Line, whether in Kiryat Arba, Ariel or elsewhere, clarifies the sinister intent behind the euphemistically termed "interim" agreement.

In the interim, the Arabs are allowed to build wherever they please in these areas, provided the houses are 75 meters from the middle of the road. The aid money available for such building, although somewhat reduced by Yasser Arafat's avarice and slush-fund skim-offs, will still be quite lavish.

During that same interim period, Jews may not enter buildings which already exist. Factories and other expansion will be blocked not by outright refusal, but by a bureaucratic maze designed to subject would-be developers to the travails of Sisyphus.

Needless to say, the trickle of government allocations to Jewish communities is calculated to barely sustain life, rather than to promote growth. This discriminatory policy will abet the handover of Judea and Samaria to PLO rule during the interim period, while

leaving the government to be elected by 1996 free prospects to reverse the surrender.

One cannot construe government policy in any other way. The government cannot hide behind its "new priorities" slogan.

No government investments are needed for the apartments. On the contrary, the need to reimburse contractors for unsold apartments and compensate purchasers is a

The settlers have it in their power to retain popular sympathy

drain on government resources. Given the stratospheric prices in the housing market, it hardly makes sense to bar access to existing housing stock.

NOR CAN the government invoke the "peace process." The Oslo agreement, however odious, leaves Jewish settlements intact, at least until the final agreement. This pact was signed by Arafat, however reluctantly, and witnessed by the American government.

We are dealing with existing communities and apartments within the legal limits of these communities, and one cannot use the peace argument, unless one adopts the logic of Tourism Minister Uzi Baram, which views any increment in the Jewish population as a danger.

Via Baram, we have been transported back to medieval times, when Christian princes and barons imposed a limit on Jewish populations, and every Jewish

marriage or birth reopened negotiations.

The tragedy is that quotas on the Jewish population are today being imposed by the government of Israel.

In a desperate attempt to muddy or bloody the waters, Yitzhak Rabin has lumped the opposition together with Hamas. With his usual insensitivity, the prime minister is oblivious to the fact that the charge can easily be reversed.

Hamas conveys its message of death to the Jews of Judea and Samaria with Kalashnikovs, but Rabin's drop-dead message reverberates just as loudly.

Paradoxically, the only people who can make a success of Rabin's policy are the demonstrators themselves. If they had turned this week's squat in Kiryat Arba into a classic case of passive resistance and civil disobedience, they would have retained popular sympathy.

Instead of intemperate remarks and hooliganism, they should have greeted the policemen and soldiers with soft drinks and pastries to ensure that the issue dividing them and the government remained clear.

Jews in Judea and Samaria must exert full control at all times over all their forces. Apologies about extremist elements are unacceptable.

If the issue is apartments and the government's policy of slow asphyxiation of Jews in Judea and Samaria, the protesters could successfully contest the government both in the courts and in the battle for public opinion.

If, however, through the irresponsible actions and utterances of a few, the issue gets distorted into respect for our boys in uniform, the government will be handed an undesired victory.

The writer teaches political science at Bar-Ilan University.

Bailout

JESSICA MATHEWS

FOR four decades, the West spent whatever it took to match the Soviets' nuclear prowess. The G-7 offer over the weekend of \$200 million to close Chernobyl, one unsafe reactor site among dozens in the former Soviet Union, is evidence that we may remain hostage for as many years more to its nuclear incompetence.

The money, part of a \$1.8 billion package, is an attempt to induce Ukraine to close the three remaining reactors at Chernobyl, where, eight years ago, the world's worst nuclear accident occurred. The fallout outside Ukraine, which reached from Greece to northern Sweden, was roughly equivalent to that of a one-megaton explosion (70 times Hiroshima).

Because of official falsification of data, scientific uncertainties and the long latencies of cancer and other radiation effects, the accident's true costs are still unknown and will remain so for some time. Estimates of past and expected deaths inside and outside the former Soviet Union range into the tens of thousands.

Two hundred thousand people have been permanently evacuated, but tens and possibly hundreds of thousands more are believed to be still living on dangerously irradiated land. Fifty thousand square miles were contaminated, much of it rich farmland, and half a million

Reactor safety is just the tip of the nuclear mess in the former Soviet Union

people are under permanent medical observation.

Yet the reasons for concentrating on closing Chernobyl are largely emotional, because the conditions there are commonplace in the former Soviet Union.

There are 13 other Chernobyl-type reactors and additional equally unsafe reactor designs operating in the former Soviet Union. True, at Chernobyl the sarcophagus containing the remains of the exploded reactor is crumbling and may collapse. But that risk is unaffected by whether the other units are shut off. The big danger comes from the lack of spare parts, routine maintenance and skilled operators, many of whom have left in search of more certain pay in Russia.

They won't find it. "We are on the brink," worried a Russian reactor director in April. "I just paid the back wages for January. The workers are in a very bad mood and, God forbid, something might happen." A minister was blunter: "Today the plants work in an emergency regime. It's impossible. It's like a bomb."

THE LESSON Three Mile Island taught was that human error can confound the most elegant engineering. Badly designed reactors put an even greater premium on good operators. People who are tired, angry and poorly trained are a prescription for disaster.

For several years, the G-7 governments have tried to figure out how to reduce the risk of another accident in the face of the Russian nuclear establishment's contention that its plants are safe and with only a tiny amount of money to spend. They want to correct the worst hazards at the most dangerous reactors, while at the same time trying to convince Russia and Ukraine that these plants cannot be made safe and should be shut down.

The other stumbling block is what to replace a closed reactor with. Russia and Ukraine favor newer reactors. The US, the World Bank and others believe that fossil fuel plants, efficiency improvements and renewables are less costly as well as safer. The G-7 decided after a stiff battle to opt for completing Ukraine's new reactors. The real problem, though, is that the offer does not forge a hard link between the aid and a certain shutdown. Without such a hard link, reactor safety could become a rationale for Western money.

Better ways must therefore be found to push for change while firmly leaving the responsibility for safety with local authorities. Spending more on people is part of the answer. Like other types of Western aid to the former Soviet Union, the G-7 offer spends far too little on training in the West, where people can be immersed in a wholly different technical and managerial culture.

Huge as it is, reactor safety is just the tip of the nuclear mess in the former Soviet Union that will affect other countries. Rivers, underground aquifers and the Arctic Ocean have been - and are being - contaminated on an almost unbelievable scale. Lots of Western money could be sucked in. That puts a very high premium on clear goals and hard-headed spending. The Chernobyl bailout is not an encouraging start.

The writer is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations (Washington Post)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A STRANGE KIND OF JUSTICE

Sir, - A very strange situation has arisen in Israel, where Jews are being held for months at a time without ever knowing why. A case in point is a letter from Shimon named Shmuel Ben-Ya'acov. On March 13, the day the party was outlawed, he was arrested for having been a member of Kach. He had not joined since the parties became illegal. In a sense, he was arrested retroactively, because before that date, citizens were free to join this party if they so wished.

I have never met this man, nor have I any particular sympathy for the outlawed Kach party. However, I have spoken to his wife, Nili. She recently gave birth to a baby girl (there are four other children at home). When Rachel Tiferet, their daughter, was born, the father was allowed to come home and see his child - in chains! Twelve policemen

stood guarding the house while he visited his family.

What has this man done? He claims nothing. The open file has nothing at all in it. The police claim there is another closed file. Neither he nor his lawyer has been allowed to see it, if it exists. In the meantime, he has served three months in Tel Mond prison without being charged with any crime at all and he has had the remand extended, with no explanation, for a further three months. Administrative detention was originally enacted and used against Arab terrorists whose goal was to destroy the state. Now they are being released in their thousands, even those who had received seven or more life sentences for crimes committed.

DVORA WAYSMAN
Jerusalem.

FREE ACCESS TO HOLY SITES

Sir, - A short while ago, a friend and I decided to visit the Temple Mount. Before being allowed up, we were subjected to a thorough search and warned not to spend too much time there, neither pray nor make "praying motions." The two of us were accompanied by a police officer and a Wakf escort. Each time we stopped to observe a point of interest, we were told by the police officer to move along and finish our tour.

Suddenly, the officer grabbed my friend by the arm and began to drag him off the Mount. Though he protested and explained that he would go along with the officer quietly, he was still dragged physically and forcibly away. At the entrance to the Mount, his identity card was confiscated and his name recorded, and he was told that he would not be able to visit the Mount again. When my friend expressed his astonishment, saying that he had followed the instructions received at the entrance, he was told by the officer, "I heard you whispering words from the Bible under your breath."

Is this what is meant by free access

to all holy sites for all religions? Is this an example of Jewish sovereignty over Jerusalem? How can our prime minister defend the right of a despicable terrorist like Arafat to pray on the Temple Mount while at the same time denying law-abiding citizens of Israel that same right?

BARUCH STERMAN
Eilat.

ETERNAL JERUSALEM
Sir, - Stan Goodenough in his article of June 24 notes: "For 2,000 years, Jews faithfully nurtured the dream of returning to Jerusalem." What he fails to understand is that those were the faithful Jews. Today's Israeli leaders are people without faith who nurture only dreams of riding themselves of the Jerusalem burden. But Stan Goodenough is right. Unless faithful Jews take over the reins, Israel's capital city is lost. Today's leaders do not want it. It is up to its loving people to cherish it and defend it and protect it and fight for it forever.

ISRAEL KATZ
Eilat.

OBJECTIONABLE CUSTOM

Sir, - I wish to protest the growing custom - not only in *The Jerusalem Post* - of calling people by their family name alone. This is condescending. When a teacher says, "Cohen, come here," not only does it forebode no good to Cohen, it classes the teacher as an arrogant autocrat.

This is even more objectionable when referring to a married woman by what is after all her husband's family name - especially if she may be divorced or separated from him. It can even be confusing when an article refers to both husband and wife in the same context.

Everybody has a personal name. I observe that all the journalists refer their names published in full. So if you want to save print, you can cut down on them, but not on the public you are reporting on.

KENNETH L. COHEN
Jerusalem.

All persons are referred to by both first and last names when their name first appears in the article or news story. It is only when the name is repeated that the first name is omitted. Ed. J.P.

THE NEW REALITY

Sir, - Yasser Arafat's visit to Gaza not only got full-time media attention in Israel, it also induced the leaders of the opposition to speak of nothing else. When Arafat comes to stay, his presence will soon stop being news.

One should hope that the opposition Knesset members will also be able to adjust to the new reality. After all, they get paid to be a parliamentary opposition, not to organize violent demonstrations. They could be expected to represent the interests of their voters - not just of those living beyond the Green Line. If they don't understand that soon, they might have a bad surprise at the next elections.

BEATE ZILVERSMIDT
Tel Aviv.

He gave them life and hope; they hope he's still alive

Fresh evidence about the fate of Raoul Wallenberg, who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews, has turned up in Jerusalem, Greer Fay Cashman writes

RAOUL Wallenberg's mission was to ensure that hundreds of Hungarians could go home again — to any home.

As many as 100,000 of them did find a home — and lives — because of him.

Meir Gal, former director of a Petah Tikva school for children with learning disabilities and today the secretary of the Hungarian Immigrants' Association in Tel Aviv, believes he owes his life to Wallenberg.

"Some people did return from the extermination camps," he acknowledged, "but many of my friends who were taken, perished."

Born in Budapest, where he was known as Tibor Gal, he was 16 years old in December 1944, when arrested and transferred to premises in which several hundred Jews were awaiting transportation to the death camps.

"I had been in a labor camp from which I escaped, but I had been wandering around homeless and without papers when I was apprehended," Gal recalled this week.

"At 4:30 in the morning," Gal related, "a man wearing a hat and a long trench coat came in and introduced himself as the Swedish

consul. I didn't learn till later that he was Wallenberg. He said that he had come to take all his people."

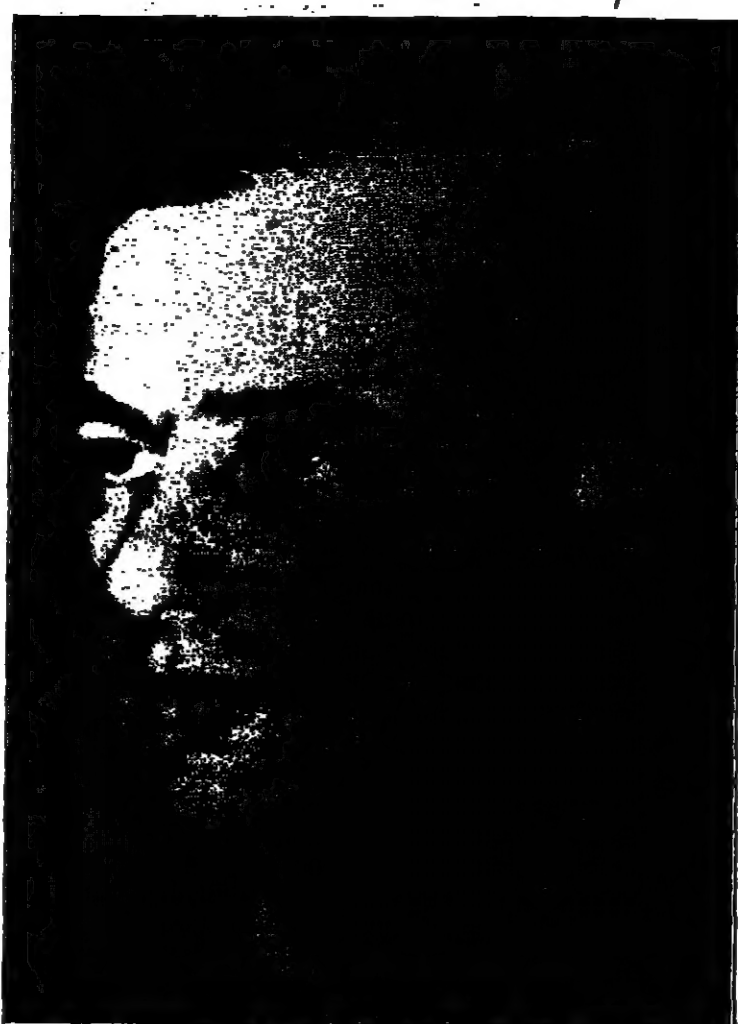
"I didn't have any Swedish documents, but I remembered that I had a cousin who did. The problem was that he was 34, and I was only 16."

"Wallenberg had a detailed list of names, and when I stepped forward and presented myself as my cousin, he looked down to check if the name was on his list. Then he looked up again. He knew that I wasn't 34, but he said, 'Okay,' and I was evacuated with the others. He took us to the Swedish compound, and I was subsequently released on January 18, 1945, when the Russians came to Budapest."

Gal doubts that Wallenberg is still alive. "I don't think that he could have lasted so many years," he said.

But Wallenberg's half-brother, Guy von Dardel, believes he is still alive. "We have no real proof that he is dead," von Dardel said in a telephone interview from his home in Switzerland. "If he is alive, he is 82, which is not a very advanced age."

Fresh evidence has come to light to suggest that von Dardel's optimism is not misplaced. When he was in Jerusalem two weeks ago, he met a witness, an immi-



Raoul Wallenberg at 35; while his half-brother searches for him in Russia, others work to keep his name alive here.

grant from the former Soviet Union, who told him things about his brother he had not known before. Declining to release details or even to reveal the name of the

witness, von Dardel said that information he had received had enabled him to formulate new plans "which are too early to speak of. But they could be decisive."

Representatives of the Swedish government and von Dardel meet frequently with the Russians, who, according to von Dardel, are "more cooperative than ever before. I think we are making progress," he said.

The commemoration this year of the 50th anniversary of the annihilation of Hungarian Jewry refocuses attention on Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat, who from July 1944 to January 1945 saved large numbers of Hungarian Jews from deportation to the death camps.

Wallenberg provided thousands of Jews with Swedish documents and inspired diplomats from other countries to issue protective passports similar to those approved by Sweden.

He also initiated other rescue operations, establishing an extra-territorial compound in Budapest where he found homes for some 15,000 Jews whom he had made instant Swedish citizens. His other humanitarian efforts included the setting up of hospitals, nurseries, schools and soup kitchens.

Though he was credited by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's War Refugee Board with saving 20,000 lives, estimates by survivors and colleagues put the number as high as 100,000.

Seeking to place his charges under the protection of the Red Army, Wallenberg, accompanied by a Russian military escort, set out on January 17, 1945 for Soviet headquarters.

That was the last that anyone outside the USSR ever saw of him. There were unsupported rumors that he had been killed by Hungarian fascists, followed by equally unsubstantiated tales that he had died in a Soviet prison.

Until furnished with irrefutable proof of his death, his family, the Swedish government and the various organizations which have kept his name in the public eye, prefer to believe he is alive.

With the possible exception of Oscar Schindler, no Righteous Gentile is as well known as Wallenberg. Certainly none has received as much publicity.

One of the people responsible for generating that publicity is Dutch-born, second-generation survivor Max Grunberg. As a youngster, Grunberg was part of a second-generation survivors' support group. The group's facilitator suggested it would be much healthier to concentrate on anything positive that had come out of the Holocaust than to continue to dwell morbidly on the negative. Wallenberg was one such option.

It is amazing nonetheless, that after all this time, Wallenberg has not been forgotten. "What is different in this particular story," says Grunberg, who now lives in Ra'anana, "is that Wallenberg himself is still missing."

Grunberg, who spent nine years in Canada before settling in Israel three years ago, was one of the founders of the Raoul Wallenberg Committee, which worked closely with the Jewish Federation of Edmonton and the Canadian Jewish Congress to produce a Wallenberg educational kit to show "how one person can make a difference."

Two years ago, a play about Wallenberg coauthored by Eli Joseph and Elisha Atlan, principal and teacher, respectively, at the Upland B'nai Zion School in Mevaseret Zion, was performed in the presence of the Swedish ambassador.

A little over a month ago, the two were contacted by the Swedish Embassy and asked if they could stage another performance. Joseph and Atlan were happy to oblige but asked if a member of Wallenberg's family could attend. They were astonished when their invitation was accepted by von Dardel, who has waged a 47-year campaign for Wallenberg's freedom.

"Guy von Dardel is looking for his brother in Russia, and we are looking for him in Israel," Atlan said.

To teach every local schoolchild about the Swedish diplomat, he has instituted Wallenberg-oriented educational projects. Grunberg also wants to create more awareness. His committee, which has previously concerned itself with having honorary citizenship conferred on Wallenberg, is now launching a new documentation project to be linked with the writing of a Torah scroll in Wallenberg's honor.

Only people saved by Wallenberg or their descendants may purchase a letter in the Wallenberg scroll.

There is at least one other Torah scroll in Wallenberg's honor. In the Shimon Hatzaddik synagogue in Jerusalem's San Simon neighborhood, Atlan is concerned that naming yet another scroll in Wallenberg's honor "creates the impression that he's dead."

Grunberg disagrees. "Whenever we talk of Raoul Wallenberg, people assume that he died. We always assume the opposite. Up till three, four five years ago, there was hard evidence that he was still alive. So long as there is no proof from Russia that he is dead, we assume that he is alive."

By the grace of one good family

A Haifa couple keeps its doors open to the needy, including battered women and ex-convicts, at the House of Grace, Judith Sudilovsky writes

THE sound of a soccer ball being kicked against a wall echoes through the church courtyard. Several boys run after the ball, shouting at one another.

Two are the sons of Kamil Shehade and Agnes Bieger, husband-and-wife founders of Haifa's House of Grace.

The lanky blond boy lives at the home with his mother, who ran away from an abusive husband; the other boys are neighborhood children.

"I don't know where I would have come if it weren't for this place. The waiting lists at battered women's shelters are so long and I'm neither Jewish nor Arab," said the blond boy's 34-year-old mother.

She married her Israeli-Arab husband in her native Russia. After they came to this country four years ago he started beating her, and last year she found refuge at the House of Grace. She asked that her name not be published.

According to the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, there are seven shelters for battered women in Israel, one of which is specifically for Arab women.

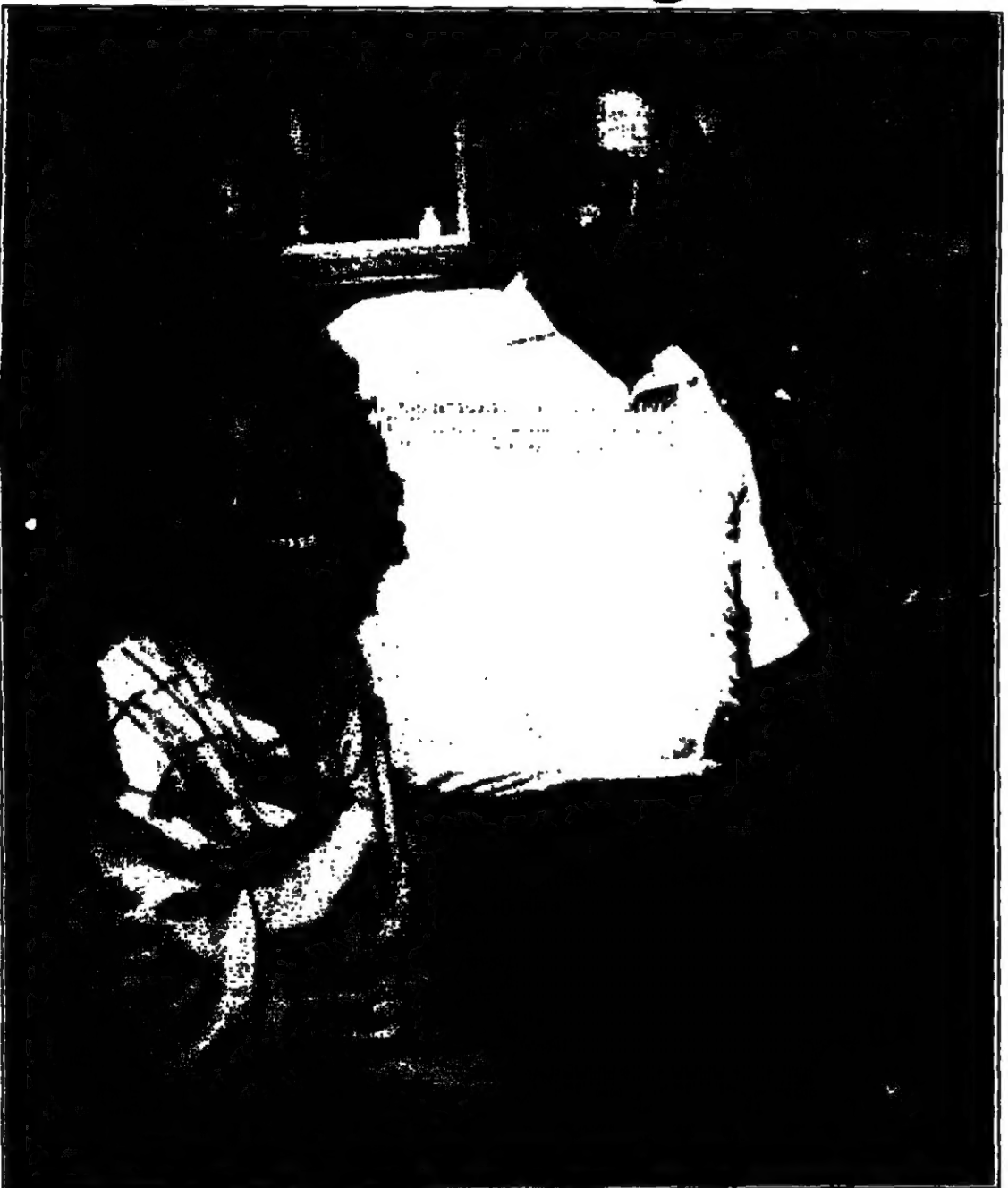
At any given time there are between 22 and 35 needy people — ex-convicts, recovering drug addicts and alcoholics, homeless people and battered women — living with the Shehades and their five children, said Waide Shehade, Shehade's 24-year-old cousin and the resident counselor for the home.

In addition to providing housing for these people, the shelter, which until now has been supported solely through private donations, provides medicine, clothing, food, social assistance, drug-prevention programs and money for tuition and summer camps to more than 800 families throughout Galilee.

WHEN THE House of Grace first moved into the renovated church in 1982, the neighbors were wary and no one would employ the residents. Slowly, the home was accepted into the community and now it has become an integral part of the social-welfare system for many of Galilee's Arab residents.

Since the mayoral elections in Haifa last fall, the home has begun to get more public recognition. This year it will receive some financial assistance from the Prison Rehabilitation Authority, and the couple has also applied for assistance from the Council for War on Drugs and the Haifa Municipality.

"For me, living like this is not strange," said Shehade, 39, finishing the ruby-red stones of his ever-present worry beads. "My grandparents and my parents were always socially active, and their



Agnes Bieger and Kamil Shehade: They shared their first home with ex-convicts. (Paul Melling)

homes were always full of people."

Shehade followed his parents' footsteps even as a teenager and brought needy people home. After Shehade and Bieger, originally from Switzerland, married 13 years ago, they shared Shehade's apartment with two ex-convicts for the first two weeks of their married life. Ever since, their home has never been just their own.

"I knew with Kamil it would never be just our family," Bieger said, sitting in the small living room which can be closed off from the communal dining room so that at least sometimes the family is alone.

"But I really don't need more privacy — you always find ways to be alone as a family. What I would like is more quiet sometimes. But up till now it feels like a normal family."

Every day dozens of volunteers, people seeking help and tourists from Bieger's native Switzerland visit the house and eat a paid lunch as part of the fund-raising campaign in the former Greek Orthodox Church. They listen to Shehade talk about the shelter and usually give a donation when they leave.

Meals cooked in the tiny communal kitchen are eaten together in the dining room. In the winter, everybody gathers in the sitting room, the only room with a gas heater.

"What is nice about this place is that it doesn't feel like an institution or like a hostel. It's like a

family," said Samira, 26.

Samira, a Palestinian woman from Gaza, came straight to the shelter after being released from jail, where she was serving an 18-month sentence for robbery.

She had been sent to the House of Grace several times before by the Bat Yam Social Services Department because of her involvement with drugs and prostitution. A few weeks after being interviewed for this article, she had left the shelter and was once again on the streets. Because she fears reprisals from her family, Samira asked that her real name not be used and that no detailed information about her be given.

ALTHOUGH THERE are repeat offenders like Samira, the percentage of House of Grace residents who return to a life of crime is lower than the national average of 66 percent cited by Prison Rehabilitation Authority director Abraham Hoffman.

Shehade said about one-fourth of their people go back to prison. That success rate is due to the family atmosphere as well as professional counseling, he said.

The House of Grace begins contact with prisoners about six months before their release. They work mostly with Christian Arab prisoners, although Jews and Moslems also speak to representatives of the shelter who visit prisoners to talk about their program.

The home is very selective about the people it accepts; prisoners must promise to abide by the house rules, Shehade said.

"We want to keep space available for people who really want to be rehabilitated," he said. "We are not a hostel. We are a family that is trying to help these people."

SOCIAL WORKER Elias Sussan, 29, and Waide Shehade help the released prisoners find jobs. The two men make weekly visits to the places of employment to make sure there are no problems between employer and employee.

Sussan and Waide Shehade also help former prisoners deal with governmental bureaucracy and when the residents are ready to leave — usually in about a year — help them find apartments.

Even after they go out on their own, the former prisoners must remain in weekly contact with the home — by phone or in person — for at least six months.

The House of Grace has a yearly budget of about \$240,000, of which about 20 percent goes to

ward salaries, Shehade said. Until this year, the Shehades received no salary and simply lived from donations, as did the home's other residents.

Most of the donations come from church groups and House of Grace Friends organizations in Europe and North America. The home is also heavily supported by Bieger's family in Switzerland.

"Of course we have financial difficulties, but that's God's problem," Shehade said. "If He wants me to continue with my work, He better find money for this place or we'll have to close the place down. But until now we're doing very well."

Most of the people helped by the House of Grace are Christian or Moslem Arabs because there are fewer social-welfare resources available to them, said Shehade, a devout Catholic.

But people of all religions and nationalities are welcome, he said, noting that a religious Jew was until recently living with them, and they made sure he received kosher food.

IT WAS the relationship he had with a convict, imprisoned for manslaughter, and his family that spurred Shehade to help other prisoners. He visited the convict in jail often and when he committed suicide, Shehade began visiting Arab prisoners around the country. Slowly he became known to the prison authorities and now has strong ties with them.

"Kamil takes in released prisoners that nobody else is willing to take. The House of Grace is an amazing place," said Ada Shiloh, national rehabilitation officer for the Israel Prison Authority. "Although Kamil is not connected to us, we have close relations with him."

Prison Rehabilitation Authority director Hoffman said, "There is no other place like the House of Grace for the Arab sector.... So this place is important. We should try to run it in a more organized and systematic way so we can measure where the successes and weaknesses are."

The Prison Rehabilitation Authority recently agreed to give the House of Grace NIS 700 a month for each ex-convict it refers to the home.

After his election, Haifa Mayor Amram Mitzna appointed Kamil Shehade chairman of the public council for services to the Arab sector.

"He integrates people back into society and helps them regardless of race, religion or sex," Mitzna said.

"A government institution can't give the type of care he gives with all his heart. Released prisoners are often not willing to accept this type of help from the authorities, either. Shehade's organization is very important to the Haifa community. If he saves one soul, it's like he saved the whole world."

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

WEDNESDAY JULY 13, 1994

Ministry plans Gaza industrial zone

Plants to be owned by Israeli, Palestinian, foreign investors

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Ministry of Industry and Trade is formulating a plan to establish industrial areas along the Gaza Strip intended for Palestinian, Israeli and foreign investment ventures, Yossi Snir, ministry director-general said yesterday.

Snir, chairman of the ministry's committee in charge of implementing the economic agreement between Israel and the Palestinians, said he has submitted the industrial zone proposal to Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish, who is expected to present the proposal to the government.

"We hope to establish two industrial areas each on 2,000 dunams. Gaza and Israeli residents will work in the firms," said Snir. "The factories will be jointly owned by Israeli, Palestinian and foreign investors so as to reduce control by either the Israeli or Palestinian side."

Snir emphasized that develop-

ment of the zones will reduce the number of workers coming from Gaza to Israel, and will partly solve the country's unemployment problem. He predicted that local sales to the autonomous areas will increase by \$700 million in the next three years to \$2.2 billion, compared with \$1.5b. today.

Snir said investors worldwide have expressed their intentions to invest in firms in the autonomous areas, but have not yet implemented their plans.

"I met with the peace builders group during my visit to Washington. The group, made up of US Jews and Arabs, said it plans to invest in the autonomous areas. Half a year has gone by, and nothing has happened, even though I have talked to them on a regular basis," he said.

"The delay may be due to the absence of an authorized institution in the autonomous areas with which it is possible to conclude a transaction."

Snir said the ministry is geared toward changes resulting from for-



Harish: Expected to present Gaza industrial area proposal to government.

sign and internal trade in the autonomous areas. He said the ministry has allocated a budget of

NIS 4.5m. this year to implement the agreement.

Snir emphasized that implementation of the pact is subject to the establishment of an institution to deal with trade matters in the areas. "There is no institution in the areas which will take responsibility and deal with relevant issues. There's no group or committee with which we can discuss joint problems," he said.

"It's obvious to everyone that we don't have all the answers to problems which may arise. At this stage, as long as there is no authorized institution to deal with the issue, Israel's import policy applies to the autonomous areas just like it has in the past."

He said the ministry plans to establish a standards institute near the Erez checkpoint to examine for Palestinian businessmen whether their products meet local standards. The ministry is also setting up a supervision network which will include about 50 quality controllers and legal advisers.

Elbit to buy Diconics for \$70m.

RACHEL NEIMAN

ELBIT, the electronic and imaging systems maker, announced it will acquire California-based Diconics Ultrasound for more than \$70 million in cash.

The purchase is expected to be finalized at Diconics' annual shareholders meeting in September, after which it will become a wholly-owned Elbit subsidiary.

"There is a worldwide trend toward mergers between companies in the ultrasound field and those dealing in medical imaging in order to strengthen their market position," Elbit President Emmanuel Gil said. "The Elbit-Diconics deal fits into this world trend."

"We believe that the merger of these two companies promises long-term growth, despite the changeover in the medical equipment field to increase competition," Gil added.

Diconics registered a net loss of \$8m. last year on a turnover of about \$200m.

The company's product line includes radiology and cardiology systems.

Sonotronics Holding, a subsidiary of the firm which represents Diconics products, is the largest independent European distributor of ultrasound systems, according to Elbit.

Reuters adds: Diconics stock shot up \$1.375 on the news to \$5.125 on Nasdaq, where it was among the most active issues. Elbit, also trade on Nasdaq, rose \$2.25 to \$20.50.

Six firms sign deals with Jain

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

SIX Israeli companies in the agriculture and plastics sectors have signed export and joint venture agreements with Jain, a leading Indian agriculture and irrigation company.

The firms that signed the deals yesterday were Raham Meristem, Yamit Filtration, Hazera, Hishitil, Azrum and Yigal Plastics.

Jain plans to buy agricultural imports - seeds and equipment - and technological know-how from the firms, and will establish joint venture companies in India.

The Indian company will invest about \$20 million in the joint ventures over the next two to three years, and is expected to spend \$25m. in the purchase of the goods and know-how.

Under the agreements, Jain will establish a tissue culture laboratory with Raham and a greenhouse production firm with Azrum. The firm will also consider establishing a plastic greenhouse cover factory with Yigal Plastics.

The pact is the result of closer political and economic relations between India and Israel, a representative of the local companies said. Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsuri's visit to India last year also helped lead to the deals, he added.

Jain is also considering to purchase control of an Israeli agricultural company. Several months ago, the Indian company bid to gain control of Deco, the local manufacturer of dried vegetables, but the firm's bid was too low.

United Airlines buyout okayed

CHICAGO - Shareholders of United Airlines' parent UAL Corp. have approved the proposed buyout of the United States' number two airline, Chairman Stephen Wolf said yesterday, making it the country's largest employee-owned company.

Wolf said at the start of a shareholders' meeting that enough votes had been tendered before the meeting to assure passage of the proposal. The deadline for voting was 12:30 p.m. EDT.

Under the employee buyout, UAL workers will receive an initial stake of 55 percent of the company in return for about \$5 billion in wage and work-rule concessions. Wolf told shareholders that over 70% of the votes collected so far favored the buyout.

The aim of the buyout is to make United competitive with lower-cost carriers. But industry analysts

say the future will be turbulent as the employee-controlled and recapitalized UAL deals with cost cuts, fare wars and some dissident workers.

The Employee Stock Ownership Plan, the latest in a series of attempts by employees to gain control of the carrier, already had been approved by UAL's board and two of its three unions.

A lawsuit seeking class action status was filed recently by one machinist against the ESOP, and dissident pilots claim a majority of their members do not support the buyout. Also, the Association of Flight Attendants is not included in the plan.

What the dissidents oppose are pay cuts of about 15% for pilots and 10 percent for machinists, which are part of the \$5 billion concession package.

IDB Group purchases 10% of Clali

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

CLALI and Associates Financial Management plans to expand its business in the banking and investment field, following the IDB Group's investment in the company.

Badal Securities, a member of the IDB Group, yesterday signed an agreement to purchase 10 percent of Clali, which is controlled by Israel General Bank and Prof. Tamir Agmon.

Agmon, the company's

founder, owns 9% of the firm's shares.

Under the agreement, Badal has an option to increase its share in the company to about 40% within 2 1/2 years.

Clali also announced that Joshua Oren, who previously managed Clali Underwriters, was appointed joint managing director of the company.

English and Dutch investment banks.

"We predict there's a significant potential for business in Europe, like private issues and public issues," Agmon said.

"This process [expansion into Europe] is expected to continue over a long period of time, but we believe Clali will be able to take advantage of its contacts."

Imports moderate local price rises

JOSE ROSENFELD

OPENING the local market to imports has moderated price rises, according to a Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce survey released yesterday.

The findings show that prices of goods exposed to competition from imports increased significantly less than products which were protected.

Under a government program, which began in September 1991, opening up the domestic market to imports from countries that have no trade agreements with Israel, duties have been gradually reduced. By 1998, the highest im-

port duties, aside from textiles, will be 8 percent for raw materials and 12% for finished products.

Consumer prices of goods exposed to competition from imports rose on average 8.4% during the first year of the program, 6.6% in the following year and only 2.8% from September 1993 to April.

By contrast, prices of protected products increased 10.4% in the first year, 12.7% in the second year and 6.4% in the third year.

From September 1991 until April, prices of exposed goods rose

18.1% cumulatively, while protected products shot up 32.2%.

Similarly, producer prices of unprotected products increased more moderately than protected goods. Exposed producer goods rose 7.1% in the first year, 3.7% in the second and 2% in the third.

By contrast, protected products increased 7.5%, 14.9% and 7.8%, respectively. Cumulatively, exposed producer product prices rose 13.8% compared to 33.2% for protected goods.

The survey reviewed prices of 37 products and 2 services from September 1991 to April this year.

Trade gap jumps 27% in first half of year

JOSE ROSENFELD

THE trade gap grew 26.8 percent in the first half of the year to \$4.37 billion compared with the same period last year, as exports went up 8.1% and imports increased a steep 15.6%, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

Although three-quarters of the deficit derives from trade with the European Union (EU) and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries, only 53.2% of Israel's imports originated from those countries.

The deficit with the EU and EFTA, excluding diamonds, grew by \$790 million compared with the first half of 1993. The gap widened to over \$1b. with the inclusion of diamonds.

The trade deficit with the US, excluding diamonds, grew \$290m. due to the importing of two civilian aircraft. With the inclusion of diamonds, however, Israel registered a trade surplus of \$170m. with the US.

Israel also had a positive trade balance with Asia of \$100m., excluding diamonds, and \$440m., with diamonds.

About half of the \$419m. increase in exports during the first six months of the year came from trade with Asia. Exports to Thailand rose by \$67m., to India by \$60m., to Japan by \$39m. and to the Philippines by \$38m. A third of the increase in exports, or about \$140m., came in trade with North and South America, including some \$60m. with the US.

By contrast, exports to the EU dropped by \$30m. Exports to the EFTA, however, grew by \$33m while exports to eastern Europe increased only by \$12m., after growing by \$25m. between 1992 and 1993.

A third of the country's exports went to western Europe, 28% to the US and 12.5% to Asia, while 20.8% of all imports came from the US, 11.1% from Asia and 2% from Africa.

Degem Systems conducting Cambodian deal

RACHEL NEIMAN

DEGEM Systems is negotiating a deal with the Cambodian Army and the country's Education Ministry to train former guerrilla fighters in technical and vocational skills. As part of the agreement, the Asian Development Bank will purchase over \$5 million worth of modular units housed in trailers that will provide a base for the project's implementation.

Degem specializes in innovative training technologies for use by the industrial, electronics, telecommunications and educational sectors.

The company also markets a system which helps develop skills for illiterate students, especially those from rural and remote areas. The mobile unit system has been similarly used in Angola to train demobilized soldiers.

"If a country does not give them [guerrillas] these skills, there is the threat of internal strife, crime and the potential development of a local mafia which could endanger the country," Degem Technological Systems Division President Daniel Delrahim said.

UN officials in Cambodia are also considering to buy the system.

A joint Degem-Berlitz venture will develop a Khmer-English version of Degem's language training program that will be used by Cambodian field personnel.

'Egged operating subsidy is only NIS 280m. a year'

THE operating subsidy paid by the government to Egged amounts to NIS 280 million a year and not NIS 750m. as reported by the Treasury, officials of the country's largest bus cooperative said yesterday.

Yoni Shaked, deputy director of Egged's finance department, added that the cooperative received a gross subsidy of NIS 495m. About 20 percent of the company's operating budget comes from the subsidy.

The cooperative was responding to Finance Ministry figures relating to the subsidy and to the salary of Egged members.

Officials said the number of Egged workers was reduced by 2,400 over the past ten years, while the scope of the company's services increased by 18%.

In comparison with 1988, the firm's salary expenses have been lowered by NIS 300m.

Shlomo Levine, chairman of the Egged executive, said the net salary of an Egged member is about NIS 4,500 and could reach NIS 7,000 with overtime.

He said the average salary had dropped from 70% above the country's average wage to 10% above the national average.

Mutual funds' assets plunge 36% in first six months

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MUTUAL funds' assets fell 35.8 percent in the first half of 1994 to NIS 37.1 billion compared with NIS 57.8b. in the corresponding period last year, Meitav consultancy firm reported yesterday.

The company said negative yields reduced the funds' assets by NIS 8.2b. The drop in assets was also blamed on the wave of mutual fund redemptions, which amounted to NIS 3.1b. in the first half of the year. According to Meitav, the funds suffered record redemptions of NIS 1.9b. in June.

In the first six months of the year, the public took out NIS 2.2b. from the share funds, while foreign currency funds registered redemptions of NIS 1.02b. and the flexible funds had redemptions of NIS 853m.

Less money was taken out of the more conservative funds. Bond funds reported redemptions of NIS 445m., mixed funds redemptions of NIS 359m. and government-bond funds redemptions of NIS 214m.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Dollar continues to plummet: The dollar yesterday continued its free fall in the international currency markets and dropped below the NIS 3 mark. The US currency lost nearly half a percentage point against the shekel to NIS 2.988, back to the level it reached on January 1. The shekel, however, fell 0.2% against the currency basket to NIS 3.3537. There was excess demand of \$2.797 million in the local foreign currency market and the Bank of Israel supplied \$937,000 in foreign currency.

Tekrad has won the tender offer to provide international digital electronic exchanges to a Hungarian telecommunications company. The company will provide 30 advanced switching systems that will manage some 40,000 telephone lines. The project is valued at some \$10m.

The telecommunications company's eastern European activities this year have included the installation of a digital electronic exchange in Romania that handles local telephone traffic.

Bank Leumi yesterday introduced a new savings plan offering customers four index-linked savings routes at a fixed interest of 3.65% per year, the highest interest in the sector.

Aluthurm in joint venture with Czech company: Aluminum recyclers Aluthurm own a 35 percent share of a joint venture with the Czech firm Kovohute Mnisek. The company will produce specialized aluminum products from scrap, such as high-grade aluminum powder, by utilizing Aluthurm's technology. In addition to its ownership share, Aluthurm will receive royalties for use of its proprietary technology.

The agreement is the first joint venture under Israel's new tax treaty with the Czech Republic.

Group to solve industrial wastewater problems: A joint team from the Environment Ministry and Manufacturers Association has been established to solve the problem of industrial wastewater, according to association officials. They also announced that industry has invested some \$7m. in wastewater treatment plants, twice as much as last year's investment.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mattel claims victory in Scrabble battle: Mattel Inc. says it's won the battle for Scrabble.

The company said Monday it has commitments for more than 50 percent of the shares of British board game maker J.W. Spear and Sons, outbidding rival Hasbro.

At stake is the right to sell Scrabble, one of the world's most popular games, outside of North America. About 3.5 million copies of Scrabble sold worldwide last year, about half of them in the US and Canada, where Hasbro holds selling rights for the board game.

El Lilly and Co. moved Monday to expand its share of the changing health-care industry by agreeing to pay \$4 billion for McKesson Corp.'s pharmacy benefit management unit, but industry analysts said it may have overpaid.

McKesson's PCS Health Systems Inc. subsidiary operates programmes covering more than 1,300 health plans and about 50m. people, making it the largest benefit management company in the nation.

Motorola profits, sales soar: Motorola Inc., the United States' largest cellular telephone maker, Monday reported a surprisingly sharp jump in second-quarter sales and profits, thanks to strong demand for its wireless devices, computer chips and other electronic products.

Net income for the quarter, which ended July 3, jumped 64 percent to \$367.0m., or 63 cents a share, from \$224.0m., or 40 cents a share, on a diluted basis. Company sales rose 38% to \$5.4 billion from \$3.9b. in the year-ago period.

Roche caught the market off guard yesterday with lower-than-expected first half sales growth but analysts remained positive about the company even though they revised profit forecasts downward.

Roche, regarded as the most dynamic of the big three Swiss chemical and pharmaceutical concerns, said sales in the first six months of 1994 rose to \$5.67b. from \$5.54b. a year earlier.

Report on Credit Lyonnais blames management: A parliamentary report on the financial crisis at France's largest bank, state-owned Credit Lyonnais, yesterday blamed the management but also chided the government for being slow to stop the rot.

Running to almost 1,000 pages, the two-volume report dished out a hefty share of the blame to Credit Lyonnais' former chairman, Jean-Yves Haberer, who burdened the bank with a mountain of risky investments.

"For several years Credit Lyonnais was prey to a veritable bulimia of investments and acquisitions which were not always accompanied by a true appreciation of the risks," Philippe Seguin, head of the National Assembly, said in the report.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (13.7.94)			
Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.125	4.625	5.125
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	3.875	4.375	4.875
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	3.625	4.125	4.625
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.675	4.000	4.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.250	3.350	3.500
Yen (10 million yen)	0.500	0.500	0.750

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (12.7.94)			
Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rate*
U.S. dollar	3.3250	3.3750	3.3500
German mark	2.6582	2.6081	2.6300
French franc	1.9382	1.9882	1.9630
British pound	4.8384	4.7842	4.8113
Japanese yen (100)	0.0245	0.0245	0.0245
Dutch guilder	0.0375	0.0375	0.0375
Swiss franc	2.2558	2.2058	2.2308
Spanish peseta	0.0330	0.0330	0.0330
Italian lira	0.0416	0.0416	0.0416
Belgian franc	0.0251	0.0251	0.0251
Australian dollar	0.5874	0.5874	0.5874
Canadian dollar	2.1451	2.1451	2.1451
S. African rand	0.8105	0.8105	0.8105
Portuguese escudo	0.0416	0.0416	0.0416
Irish punt	0.7826	0.7826	0.7826
Spanish peseta (100)	4.8124	4.7678	4.7901
EU	2.3551	2.3883	2.3717

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Key Representative Rates

US dollar	NIS 2.9980	-0.47%
Sterling	NIS 4.6943	+0.53%
Mark	NIS 1.9549	+1.23%

Maxwell retirees suffer legal setback

LONDON (Reuters) - Pensioners of companies formerly owned by Robert Maxwell suffered a setback yesterday when a court threw out an attempt to leapfrog other creditors of the late tycoon's Maxwell Communications Corp. (MCC).

The court dismissed an appeal by Bishopsgate Investment Management (BIM), which claimed that it did not have to pinpoint pension money allegedly to have ended up with MCC.

Upholding an earlier judgment, Britain's Appeal Court said BIM could not establish a legal charge over all MCC's assets, placing it above other creditors, instead of specifically tracking funds down.

Liquidators of BIM, which handled most of the pension funds of Maxwell's companies, have been trying to trace 450 million pounds (\$707 million) owed by Maxwell to prop up his ailing empire before he drowned off his luxury yacht in November 1991.

The setback follows recent successes in claiming back pension assets improperly handed to banks as security for loans.

Meanwhile, MCC administrator Price Waterhouse has been trying to settle creditor claims - after selling huge chunks of publishing assets - since MCC went into administration in Britain and the United States in December 1991.

The latest decision is still just one step on the way, however.

Administrator Mark Homan said the timing and outcome of the first payout to creditors depended on further legal proceedings.

The affair now returns to the High Court for it to decide what amounts can be paid out and what needs to be kept to trace other possible claims.

That may include BIM's claim, though Price Waterhouse has resisted its attempts so far.

"The administrators have not yet admitted BIM's claims, nor received evidence establishing that BIM can satisfy the burden of proof to enable them to trace into MCC's assets to any major extent," Price Waterhouse said in a statement.

Whirlpool acquires control of India firm

BENTON HARBOR, Mich. (Reuters) - Whirlpool Corp. said yesterday it will acquire a controlling stake in Kelvinator of India Ltd., a leading manufacturer and marketer of refrigerators in the country, for \$100 million.

Under the agreement, Whirlpool - the world's largest white-goods manufacturer - will buy new Kelvinator shares, providing equity capital to support plant and product line expansion.

The Benton Harbor, Mich.-based company said Kelvinator's board of directors endorsed the deal over the weekend.

The agreement is subject to Kelvinator shareholder approval, expected within the next 30 days, and approval from the Indian government.

Whirlpool, which sells products under 10 major brand names in more than 120 countries, said the purchase is a key to its aggressive growth strategy in Asia.

"Our objective is to, over time, lead the Asian home-appliance industry. This is an important move toward that end, and it won't be our last one," it said in a statement.

Asian consumers, including India's growing middle class, are expected to buy half or more of the major appliances sold worldwide in the next 10 years, Whirlpool said.

With the Kelvinator purchase, Whirlpool gains a network of more than 3,000 dealers in India, the second most populous country.

Whirlpool said it plans to produce a new refrigerator design in India soon, incorporating its advanced manufacturing processes with its frost-free technology.

Kelvinator will complement Whirlpool's 51 percent stake in TVS Whirlpool, Ltd., or TWL, a four-year-old joint venture which builds automatic and twin-tub clothes washers for sale in India and elsewhere in Asia.

Whirlpool recently invested \$5.4 million to raise its stake in TWL and has added management expertise to the venture.

Since 1992, Whirlpool has added regional headquarters in Hong Kong, Tokyo and Singapore, an Asian regional design and engineering center and a joint venture in Taiwan. It manufactures in 11 countries.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Name	Price	% Change
Bank Leumi	175.00	4.1
Bank Hapoalim	175.00	4.1
Bank Mizrahi	175.00	4.1
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Bank Hapoalim	175	

Fiery Brazil leery of Swedish chill

Underdogs Bulgaria ready to topple Italy



PASADENA (Reuters) - Brazil fire and passion will carry them to their rightful place in a World Cup final for the first time in 24 years if they can avoid catching a Swedish chill tonight.

Sweden's ice-cold tactics doused the Brazilian flames in a first-round match two weeks ago and the Scandinavians are surprisingly confident they can do even better than the 1-1 draw they obtained at the Pontiac Silverdome outside Detroit.

The Swedes are the only team to have held Brazil at the US finals but the South Americans' coach Carlos Alberto Parreira poured scorn on their prospects of a repeat.

"The last game was nothing more than friendly," he snapped. "There was nothing at stake. This time we will be playing for a place in the World Cup final. This time we will be more adventurous."

Brazil, it is true, had already qualified for the second round when the first game was played, but their forwards looked strangely inept against the well-drilled Swedish defense and the Scandinavians have undoubtedly improved during the finals.

"Sweden mark well and they are very dangerous in the air," Parreira conceded. "They have four players who are 1.90 meters or more. We must stop them getting crosses into our area."

"They are consistent, competitive and they never give up. It's not by chance that they are in the semifinals. They will be tight at the back and counter-attack."

Essentially, it will come down to a contest between Brazilian individualism and Swedish teamwork and Parreira knows he has the stars who can make the difference.

Brazil, the perennial crowd-pleasers of world soccer, lack the cohesive, fluid style of great sides of the past, such as Pele's 1970 World Cup-winning team.

But if they are missing the creative midfield automatically associated with a Brazilian national side, they are by no means short of individual flair and strikers Romario and Bebeto have already shown they are capable of deciding matches single-handedly.

Swedish coach Tommy Svensson knows these are the two he must control if his team are to reach their first World Cup final since 1958 when the lost, as hosts, 5-2 to Brazil of all people.

Unlike Parreira, Svensson believes the first meeting between the two did mean something. "It was psychologically important for us to play against them," he said. "We know we can score against them and we know we can stop them."

"I'm confident, especially as we are physically one of the strongest teams in the tournament." Sweden has belied the popular belief that northern European teams cannot compete in sweltering heat and they appeared cool, calm and collected after their exhausting penalty shoot-out win after extra time against Romania.



SOUL MUSIC - Brazil's forward Bebeto whoops it up after scoring the winning goal against the US last week. (AP)

But the Baggies of Juventus - European Footballer of the Year Roberto and no-nonsense midfielder Dino - may well be the men to make the difference. Roberto equalized against Nigeria in the 89th minute and notched the winning penalty in extra-time and repeated the last-ditch heroics against Spain with the winning strike in the 88th minute.

Unrelated namesake Dino scored the opener against Spain and also produced the goal in the 1-0 win over Norway, Italy's only victory in the first round.

Italy: 1-Giuseppe Pagliuca, 2-Roberto Mussi, 3-Alessandro Costacurra, 4-Paolo Maldini, 5-Antonio Benarrivo, 6-Roberto Donadoni, 11-Domenico Albertini, 13-Dino Baggio, 20-Giuseppe Signori, 10-Roberto Baggio, 19-Danielle Massaro.

Bulgaria: 1-Borislav Mikhailov, 16-Iliya Kirjakov, 3-Trifun Ivanov, 5-Petar Hachev, 4-Tzvetan Tsvetanov, 6-Zlatko Yanakov, 9-Yordan Donchev, 20-Krasimir Balakov, 10-Nesko Stoyanov, 7-Emil Kostadinov, 8-Tzvetan Stoyanov.

Sweden: 1-Thomas Ravelli, 2-Roland Nilsson, 3-Patrik Andersson, 4-Joachim Bjorklund, 5-Roger Ljung, 11-Tomas Brodin, 9-Jens Thoen (or 21-Jesper Blomqvist), 18-Hakan Mild, 8-Klas Ingesson, 10-Martin Dahlin, 19-Kennet Andersson.

But they will have to make do without the experienced Stefan Schwarz, sent off against the Romanians, and may still be without a second key midfielder, captain Jonas Thern, who faces a late fitness test after a second-round knee injury.

The creativity of Tomas Brodin and the heading power of Martin Dahlin and Kennet Andersson, one of the revelations of the finals, are their assets on the counter-attack.

Brazil: 1-Taffarel, 2-Jorginho, 13-Aldair, 15-Marcio Santos, 6-Branco, 8-Dunga, 5-Mauro Silva, 17-Mazinho, 9-Zinho, 7-Bebeto, 11-Romario.

Sweden: 1-Thomas Ravelli, 2-Roland Nilsson, 3-Patrik Andersson, 4-Joachim Bjorklund, 5-Roger Ljung, 11-Tomas Brodin, 9-Jens Thoen (or 21-Jesper Blomqvist), 18-Hakan Mild, 8-Klas Ingesson, 10-Martin Dahlin, 19-Kennet Andersson.

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Brazil: 1-Taffarel, 2-Jorginho, 13-Aldair, 15-Marcio Santos, 6-Branco, 8-Dunga, 5-Mauro Silva, 17-Mazinho, 9-Zinho, 7-Bebeto, 11-Romario.

Sweden: 1-Thomas Ravelli, 2-Roland Nilsson, 3-Patrik Andersson, 4-Joachim Bjorklund, 5-Roger Ljung, 11-Tomas Brodin, 9-Jens Thoen (or 21-Jesper Blomqvist), 18-Hakan Mild, 8-Klas Ingesson, 10-Martin Dahlin, 19-Kennet Andersson.

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AL sluggers striking fear, labor dispute still simmers

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Frank Thomas propelled baseballs into seats so far from the field they usually don't sell them at Three Rivers Stadium. Ken Griffey Jr. pounded ball after ball into territory even Willie Stargell never reached.

A few feet away, Barry Bonds and Gregg Jefferies alternated between astonishment and uneasy anticipation. How could the National League possibly defend against such awesome American League power in the scheduled All-Star game?

"I'm going to be in left field, on the warning track with my back up against the wall," Bonds said. "Man, these guys hit them where they've never hit them before."

"We're not playing the same games as those guys," Jefferies said. "I don't think I could do that with an aluminum bat."

Baseball hasn't seen a season like this in years - three sluggers chasing Roger Maris' home run record, the Cleveland Indians in first place, more teams in the pennant race than out. What a season.

No wonder they call it The Show. No wonder they call it The Show. No wonder they call it The Show. No wonder they call it The Show.

Just across Pittsburgh's three rivers, not far from where Griffey and Thomas put on a monstrous and momentous home run duel Monday, the players union pondered the first lengthy post-All-Star game shutdown in history.

Just like a rocket-launched Griffey homer, will this season soon be going, going, gone? "It's an ugly situation, and it's on everybody's mind," Giants reliever Rod Beck said. "It's just kind of looming."

The union's executive board has the authorization to call a strike at any time. The most likely scenario, a mid-August or early September strike, probably would force a season-ending shutdown and the first autumn without a

World Series in 90 years. The players and owners seem so far apart - the players refusing to even consider a salary cap, the unified owners intent on reforming the game's finances - that a season-saving settlement hardly seems possible.

"I'm having a decent year. You think I want to go on strike?" the Padres' Tony Gwynn said. "But some things are more important."

This ominous talk couldn't come at a worse time for baseball, just when America sinks back in its recliner on a jewel of a July night for a one-night panacea for all of baseball's troubles.

The AL, winner of the last six All-Star games, looks as all-powerful and as awe-inspiring as the NL powerhouse that once won 19 of 20 games. Only the names have changed - instead of Mays, Aaron and Clemente, they're Griffey Jr., Thomas and Ripken.

The AL has won seven of the last eight games, outscoring the outgunned NL 22-9 in the last two. Thomas and Griffey gave NL pitchers a menacing preview of what might be coming, combining for eight homers measuring longer than 450 feet in Monday's home run derby.

National leaguers like Bonds (23 homers, 54 RBIs), Mike Piazza (21 homers, 76 RBIs) and Matt Williams (33 homers, 69 RBIs) would be ruing more attention if Griffey and Thomas hadn't spent the first half assailing Maris' record.

Bonds, a three-time MVP, concedes that Griffey Jr. now has surpassed him as baseball's preeminent talent. He's rooting for Griffey, whose father, Ken Sr., was a contemporary of Bonds' father, Bobby. To break Maris' record.

"For Junior and Thomas, I'd hate to see it (a strike)," Bonds said. "It may never come again like this for them."

And baseball fans wonder why such a gem of a season has come to this. "This is a losing situation for everybody, and the fans are the ultimate losers," Gwynn, flitting with .400, said.

Norman prepares for British Open

TURNBERRY, Scotland (AP) - The claret jug is missing from Greg Norman's office.

The space it occupied, just across from his desk, now is vacant. "There is no better feeling in the world than to sit down at my desk and see that claret jug," Norman said yesterday.

The old silver jug, of course, is the trophy for his 1993 triumph in the British Open. He removed it from its place of honor in his office and brought it with him this week to Turnberry to relinquish - if necessary - to the 1994 winner.

Norman, however, will not give it up quietly or easily. "I want to keep that trophy," he said before a practice session on the rain-soaked links on Scotland's western coast where play begins tomorrow. "Every time I look at it, it brings back fond memories."

And the dynamic Australian hopes - even expects - to add to those memories in the 120th edition of the world's oldest golf tournament. "My ambitions, my goals, my expectations are very high," said the man who has won 66 times around the world, including twice this season.

Instead of getting easier, however, winning becomes more difficult, Norman said. "The more you win, the harder it becomes to win," he said. "The more you win, the higher your expectations become, the higher the expectations of other people. You are walking a thinner line."

But there is a positive aspect to the situation, too, said the man who is ranked No. 1 in the world and is a solid favorite this week to add a third British Open crown to his collection.

Sampras, Courier expect Davis Cup win over Dutch

ROTTERDAM (AP) - The US tennis "dream team" of Pete Sampras and Jim Courier predicted victory yesterday over the Netherlands in their Davis Cup quarter-final this weekend.

"It's going to be tough to beat us on any surface," Sampras, ranked No. 1 in the world, said. "The Cup can be in the States for as long as we want it to be with the players we have."

Asked if playing with Sampras made this a "dream team," the former top-ranked Jim Courier, now 11th in the world rankings, said, "We're pretty real."

Sampras, who recently retained his Wimbledon singles crown, said he would be seeking revenge against Dutchman Jacco Eltingh during the quarter-finals from Friday to Sunday.

"I owe him two," Sampras said, referring to two previous defeats at the hands of the Dutchman. Richey Reneberg and Jared Palmer, who look to be the weak link on the US team, will face the world champion doubles pair of Paul Haarhuis and Eltingh.

Richard Krajicek, ranked 27th in the world, and Jan Siemerink, ranked 90th, complete the Dutch team. US captain Tom Gullikson praised the court and conditions. "Hard courts suit all our players," he said.

The US shut out India 5-0 to make the quarter-finals, while the Netherlands beat Belgium 5-0 to advance. The draw for the singles matches will be held Thursday.

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Labor refuses to support delay of direct election law

DAN IZENBERG

THE Labor Knesset faction defused a potential crisis within its ranks yesterday by voting to oppose two private members' bills calling for delaying implementation of the Direct Election of the Prime Minister Law.

The decision virtually guarantees that the next national election will be conducted in accordance with the law, despite opposition in the Labor faction, spearheaded by MK Avraham Burg.

"It is inconceivable that the Labor Party would back down from the law after all that has happened in the past four years and after what we presented to the electorate as our policy," Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the faction.

"It would be a fiasco, I tell you. I can't think of any more appropriate word for petty political considerations about the immediate political consequences of the law, when we are dealing with a principle. We were all elected on this platform. We have a commitment to the public," he said.

Despite Rabin's victory, a furious battle is expected next week, when the faction discusses two government amendments to the law, which would further strengthen the status of the prime minister vis-a-vis the Knesset.

The amendments would enable the prime minister to choose his cabinet without Knesset approval and increase the parliamentary majority required to pass a vote of no-confidence from 61 MKs to 65. The amendments and the law itself have split the party. Rabin and Justice Minister David Liba'i have put all their weight behind the legislation. Many MKs, however, including Burg, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Economics Minister Shimon Shetreet, Dalia Itzik, and Gedalya Gal oppose it and would still like to postpone implementation of the law despite yesterday's decision.

Naomi Chazan (Meretz) and Yigal Bibi (NRP) intended to put

their bills, calling for postponing the implementation of the Direct Election of the Prime Minister Law until the following election, to a vote in preliminary reading today. As a result of the Labor decision, it seems likely they will drop their plans.

Liba'i hinted yesterday that he would quit the party if Labor MKs supported Chazan and Bibi. "I do not know how I would show my face, or even where my face would be [politically], if the faction changes direction so completely," he warned.

Because the present coalition had a blocking majority from the start, Liba'i said, some of the MKs had apparently forgotten the ugly coalition bargaining that marred attempts to put together previous governments.

If not for the blocking majority, "We would have seen that neither Labor or the Likud determines who will be prime minister, but that a small party dictates the outcome," he said.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (right) welcomes Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides to his Jerusalem office yesterday morning. Later, the Cypriot foreign minister inaugurated the Cypriot Embassy in Tel Aviv, as workers scurried about trying to complete renovations. (Israel Hareli)

Toddler throws three-week-old sister to her death

RAINE MARCUS

A THREE-WEEK-OLD baby was killed yesterday when she was apparently thrown from a fourth-story window by her two-and-a-half-year-old sister, police said.

When the incident occurred, the two were playing in their bedroom in their Ashdod apartment while their mother was shopping. Their father had left for work in Tel Aviv.

The 22-year-old mother left the house at around 6 a.m., leaving her 10-year-old sister to supervise the toddler and the infant. The toddler was playing peacefully when, for no apparent reason, she picked up her sister, leaned out the window, and dropped her to the

ground, police said.

Youth investigators are examining the possibility that the toddler thought she was playing with a doll. After realizing what had happened, the 10-year-old — who was in another room at the time — ran to the local grocery store to get the mother. Meanwhile, a neighbor ran downstairs and saw the injured baby lying on the ground, but the baby died in her arms on the way to a local Magen David Adom station.

Social workers and a children's investigator questioned family members. Later in the morning, a magistrate court judge issued an order authorizing an autopsy to determine the exact cause of death.

Attorney-general to defend Micha Harish in petition over conflict of interest

EVELYN GORDON

ATTORNEY-General Michael Ben-Yair, and not a private attorney, will represent Micha Harish in a petition to the High Court of Justice against Harish's employment of a private-sector adviser, Ben-Yair told the court yesterday.

The Civil Service Commission's committee on conflicts of interest has twice ruled that Harish's employment of Shmuel Frenkel — head of the Epsilon investment consulting firm — as an adviser, constitutes a conflict of interest. This opinion was seconded by State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat. Following Ben-Porat's report, Harish attorney Avi Goldhammer petitioned the High Court, demanding Frenkel be fired.

When the State Attorney's Office said it could not defend Harish's refusal to do so, Harish hired a private attorney, Yehuda Ressler, to represent him. Ressler recently submitted a response to the petition on Harish's behalf.

Yesterday, however, Ben-Yair

notified the court that he, and only he, would represent Harish, as mandated by law.

Justice Ministry spokeswoman Etti Eshed explained that last year, when then attorney-general Yosef Harish refused to defend Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's decision not to fire then interior minister Aryeh Deri, the High Court ruled that Rabin could not hire a private lawyer, saying only the attorney-general is authorized to represent the government.

Ben-Yair's statement to the court does not mean he has decided Micha Harish's position is correct; it is merely aimed at upholding this ruling, she said.

For the time being, there is no conflict in any case, since the upcoming court hearing will deal only with Goldhammer's request for an interim injunction preventing Frenkel from serving as an adviser until the case is decided — and Ben-Yair agrees with Harish that this is unjustified.

Regarding the petition itself, however, Ben-Yair is still studying the issue.

Civil Service Commissioner Yitzhak Galmor — who will also be represented by Ben-Yair — will review the Frenkel appointment again after he receives Ben-Yair's decision, in light of new restrictions imposed on Frenkel by Harish in an effort to prevent conflicts of interest.

These restrictions prevent Frenkel from working in the ministry or participating in any ministry meeting not directly connected with his job. They also state that neither Frenkel nor any other Epsilon employee will ask for anything from any ministry employee, and that Frenkel will not use his title as adviser for any purpose except his work for Harish.

However, if Galmor does not consider the new restrictions sufficient, and if Ben-Yair agrees with him, the attorney-general would represent only Galmor's side in court, effectively leaving Harish without representation.

Man gets 8 months, fine for issuing false receipts to Likud

SECURITY firm owner Benny Tavin, 33, was sentenced yesterday to eight months' imprisonment and fined NIS 50,000 by the Tel Aviv District Court, after being convicted of writing false receipts for the Likud Party during the Knesset and municipal elections in 1988 and 1989.

He was also convicted of

helping the Likud to distribute funds to various people in a manner that made it impossible to trace the payees or the sums involved.

Tavin wrote NIS 1 million worth of receipts for the Likud for work his company never performed. In return, the party would deposit money in his per-

sonal accounts or the accounts of companies he set up, and he would pay money from those accounts to various individuals.

Tavin received commissions for this work. Judge Shoshana Berman noted, in her verdict that Tavin's activities were all conducted with full knowledge of Likud leaders, and were meant to help the party conceal various money transfers. (Itim)

Man convicted of attempted murder tries to strangle himself

RAINE MARCUS

A MAN sentenced for the attempted murder of his ex-wife tried to kill himself in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday, after hearing he would spend the next six years in prison.

The man had tried to run over in his car in February, but hit a utility pole instead. He then tried to strangle her, but neighbors rescued the woman.

In passing sentence, Judges Edmond Levy, Devora Berliner, and Nissim Yishayahu said violence against women must be deterred by severe punishments.

On hearing his fate, the man suddenly tried to choke himself with his tie. Police pinned him to the floor, but while they were cuffing his hands behind him, he managed to take a razor blade from his pocket and cut himself. He was treated and returned to his cell, and the Prisons Service was ordered to keep him under constant supervision to prevent suicide. (Itim)

Rafael Eitan's 'wild animals'

ANALYSIS

DAN IZENBERG

EVEN though the Knesset has tried with a certain degree of success to curb the excesses of politicians, politics remains a game played primarily by power-hungry individuals.

This self-evident truth was proven again by the decision of Yit'ud to join the government.

The reasons for Yit'ud's creation in the first place are murky. Gonen Segev, Alex Goldfarb, and Esther Salmovitz ostensibly defected from Tsomet because of alleged financial irregularities in the party.

Subsequent investigations have proven that there might be some truth to the allegations, but the irregularities were not serious enough to lead to criminal charges.

A much more decisive factor was the personalities and psychology of the three MKs. As different in character as they are, their election and assumption of parliamentary duties had a similar effect — it inflated their ambitions and sense of self.

Of the three, Segev was the only one who gave any indication from the beginning of his public career that he had his own agenda.

He was stung by the description in the media of the seven Tsomet MKs elected on Rafael

Eitan's coattails and declared from the very beginning that he would prove he was a politician in his own right.

Yit'ud's decision to join the government was almost inevitable. As long as it remained in the opposition it was a hollow party, lacking charisma, ideology, agenda, public support, or a raison d'être other than the personal dreams and fantasies of its members.

Of the three, only Salmovitz was unwilling to break with the political platform that brought her into politics in the first place.

However, before getting too indignant with Segev and Goldfarb, one should recall a few facts:

• Eitan was a hair's breadth away from joining the coalition with Labor and Meretz in the summer of 1992.

• Eitan ignominiously scuttled his "sacred" alliance with the National Religious Party to renew negotiations with Labor a few months

ago, after the Oslo Accord.

• From the beginning of this Knesset, there has been a split in Tsomet between the "moderates" who are willing to compromise with the government and advocate joining the coalition and the "hardliners" whose politics are to the right of the Likud. Eitan has straddled the fence between them.

Nevertheless, it would have been one thing if a united eight-person party with a clear platform and strong public support had entered the government. It is another, when an even smaller faction with virtually no public support and no clear platform does it.

Perhaps the most important lesson to be learned from the Yit'ud episode is that charismatic leaders of one-man parties like Eitan and Rehavam Ze'evi should be careful about the people they choose to run on their lists.

For political leaders who claim they have the answers to the country's most complex problems, they have proven to be poor judges in much simpler matters. Both have found — and the country with them — that the tame animals they thought they had chosen were actually unleashed and running wild.

Salmovitz creates interesting anomaly

BACKGROUND

DAN IZENBERG

MK ESTHER Salmovitz's declaration that she will remain a member of the "fighting opposition," even though her faction is about to join the coalition, creates an anomaly unprecedented, even in this country's tortuous political experience.

Nevertheless, the situation is legally acceptable, according to Uriel Lynn, the former chairman of the Knesset law committee and author of a law preventing MKs from crossing party lines for personal gain.

Salmovitz can with impunity vote no confidence in a government in which her faction colleagues, Gonen Segev and Alex Goldfarb, are serving. In fact, she will have no other choice, since she is essentially trapped in Yit'ud.

According to the above-mentioned law — the 12th amendment to the Basic Law: Knesset — Salmovitz will lose her party funding stipend and be barred from running on the ticket of any existing party in the next election if she leaves Yit'ud.

On the other hand, the law does not bar Salmovitz from voting no-confidence in the government, even if in so doing she defies a decision by the

majority of her faction, on condition she receive no personal benefit for her vote. Indeed, the only way an MK is automatically considered to have defected from his faction without announcing it himself is by voting contrary to his faction in a no-confidence vote in return for personal gain.

Salmovitz can attack Segev and Goldfarb in public without leaving the faction, Lynn said. However, she may not act in coordination with another faction to undermine her own.

On the other hand, the Knesset has begun to give broader interpretation to the "MKs' defection law." They did so in deliberations regarding Mokedet Party leader Rehavam Ze'evi's request that the house committee rule that MK Shaul Gutman had defected from the faction by his allegedly anti-Mokedet behavior.

Although the committee has not yet voted on Ze'evi's request, it has established the principle that an MK may be considered to have defected from his faction by his actions, even if he has not resigned of his own will. Goldfarb said Yit'ud would seek to drum Salmovitz out of the faction if she continues to refuse to go along.

Court throws out petition against Tsomet

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday threw out, on technical grounds, a petition against Tsomet's donation to an institution headed by a relative of party head Rafael Eitan's.

The court said, however, that the petitioner could resubmit the petition if he wished.

The petition, by Tel Aviv attorney Zvi Sa'ar, demanded that Tsomet and Eitan be investigated and tried for the party's NIS 450,000 donation to Abava, a Haifa institution for distressed children headed by a relative and alleged lover of Eitan's.

According to Sa'ar, this donation violates party funding laws, which permit political parties to spend money only for elections and ongoing expenses. Further-

more, Sa'ar charged, the donation represents a form of election bribery.

Sa'ar's petition was also directed against State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, who approved the donation.

In response, both the state and Tsomet stressed that by law, the comptroller is responsible for monitoring the party funding laws.

Thus her finding that the donation was acceptable, under the heading of "election propaganda," eliminated any suspicion that Tsomet had violated the law.

In fact, the response noted, Tsomet had approved the original donation — NIS 100,000 — only af-

ter it first tried to return the money to the state, and was refused. As for Sa'ar's charge that the donation constituted bribery, there was no evidence to support this, the state added.

Justices Gavriel Bach, Eliezer Goldberg and Ya'akov Kedmi did not deal with the substance of the petition at all, however.

Instead, they threw it out on technical grounds: it was submitted before Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair had responded to Sa'ar's request that he open an investigation.

Now that Ben-Yair has formulated a response, the justices said, Sa'ar can re-petition if he wants, but his petition must explain why Ben-Yair's decision is unreasonable.

Huge deficits may close day-care centers

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

SOME 45,000 pre-schoolers will be without day-care centers in September unless the government acts immediately to cover the centers' deficits, the leaders of the three largest women's organizations said yesterday.

The leaders of Na'amat, WIZO, and Emuna called a press conference to announce setting up a joint staff to save the centers.

Na'amat secretary-general Ofra Friedman, WIZO executive chairman Michal Modai, and Emuna chairman Yehudit Huebner said they would not be able to open their centers September 1 due to NIS 60 million in deficits.

Na'amat's nurseries have piled up NIS 30m. in debts; WIZO NIS 25m.; and Emuna NIS 5m. The speakers blamed the centers' predicament on the govern-

ment, which fixed its subsidy to the nursery schools 25 years ago and has not updated it since.

Friedman said the women's organizations are subsidizing the day-care centers' costs by 10% to 28%, which the government should be paying.

"Our repeated appeals to the Treasury and Labor Ministry have so far been completely ignored," Friedman said.

Increased costs for wages and new security arrangements have not been factored in, the organizations said.

"Not opening the day care centers will make it impossible for parents to go to work, because there will be no one to look after the children, and it is clear to all

that many families today will not be able to make a living on one-pay check alone," Friedman said.

Modai said WIZO has closed down three centers in development towns over the past year — in Or Yehuda, Kiryat Malachi, and Beit Shemesh — and will have to close 10 more this summer.

Huebner said Emuna would be forced to close nine centers this year.

Jose Rosenfeld adds:

Treasury spokesman Aryeh Greenblatt said last night the Treasury transferred NIS 100 million this year to the three women's organizations and does not owe anything. The funds transferred met all the budgetary criteria and took into consideration all the parameters, including wage hikes, he said.

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